New PEP proposal okayed:
Provisions for post-exposure prophylaxis for some oral sex exposures.
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SF Penguins
shut out of Gay Games V in Amsterdam.
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Pillow talk
Peter Greenaway's 'The Pillow Book' opens.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 23 • 5 June 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 26 years

Supes united against United

So-called friendly skies 'can't be trusted'

by Cynthia Laird

Fed up with United Airlines and its apparent about-face regarding the city's new domestic partner benefit law, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously supported a policy change Monday, June 2 that would bar city employees from flying United unless no alternative air carrier is available.

In a demonstration of solidarity, all of the board members co-sponsored the legislation after it was introduced by Supervisors Tom Ammiano and Leslie Katz.

The proposal would only apply to city funds spent on air travel for city employees or agents. It now goes to the city attorney's office for review and refinement; it is expected to come back to the board later this month for a final vote.

Earlier this year, United Airlines negotiated with the board and won a two year exemption from the domestic partner benefit law, which went into effect Sunday. United has a multi-million dollar lease at San Francisco International Airport that was the subject of the February negotiations.

Under the law, all businesses that contract with the city must provide benefits to domestic partners of employees if they provide benefits to spouses. Many businesses have come out in support of the law, and several corporations have initiated domestic partner benefits since Mayor Willie Brown signed the landmark bill last November.

The airlines, however, have been resistant, and on May 13, the Air Transport Association (ATA) filed suit in federal court. The ATA maintains that the national air transportation system is governed exclusively by federal law.

The ATA did not seek a temporary restraining order or a preliminary injunction prior to June 1 to block the law from taking effect, which some observers view as favorable for the city.

'First step in boycott'

At Monday's board meeting, a lobbyist for United was in the audience, awaiting another agenda item, when the "don't fly United" proposal was discussed, Katz told the *B.A.R.*

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An emotional Sandra Hernandez resigns as health director

by Cynthia Laird

Dr. Sandra Hernandez has decided that 13 years in public health is enough; on Tuesday, June 3 she announced her resignation as Health Director at the Health Commission meeting. Since her appointment in January 1994, Hernandez, a Latina lesbian, has overseen a $720 million annual health budget in one of San Francisco's most high profile and controversial jobs.

Later this summer, she'll become the fourth director of the San Francisco Foundation, one of the largest community foundations in the country. The foundation, established 49 years ago, awards millions of dollars in grants every year throughout several Bay Area counties.

After a visibly emotional Hernandez announced her resignation, the seven commissioners commended her, praising her leadership and accomplishments as the city's top health official. She will stay on through the end of July to see the department through this year's budget process.

"This department is the finest in the country, if not the world," said Hernandez, who had to pause several times to fight back tears.

The day before her announcement, Her-

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Dr. Sandra Hernandez: "This department is the finest in the country, if not the world."

Jane Philomen Cleland

The 49ers win by an extra point

Propositions B and E lose in Tuesday's election

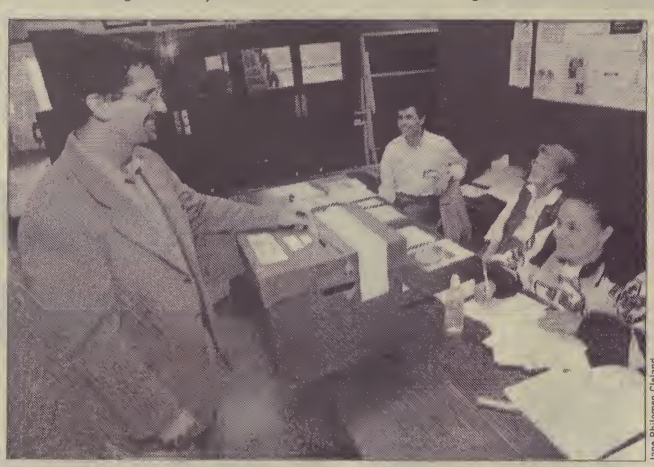
by Wayne Friday

There were no candidates competing in the June 3 special election, but the campaigning was fast and furious nonetheless, thanks to Props. D (Football Stadium Bonds) and F (Candlestick Point/Stadium Land Use). With approximately 4,500 provisional ballots left to be counted and with all 534 precincts reporting, both D and F appear to have passed by razor-thin margins – D by less than 500 votes and F by slightly more than 200.

Mayor Brown, who at one point had staked his political future on the outcome of the contest, danced on stage and waved 49er pompoms at Yes on D and F headquarters Tuesday night. After trailing for most of the evening, the two controversial propositions took a slight lead late in the day, and the mayor vowed to stay up all night if necessary to know the outcome.

The apparent win was seen as a victory for Brown, the embattled Jack Davis and, of course, the 49er organization. State Senator Quentin Kopp and political consultant Clint Reilly were the big losers June 3. The well-financed Yes on D and F forces outspent their opposition by a whopping 30-1 margin, $4 million to $125,000.

In other San Francisco election results, Prop. A (City College and School Bonds) passed by the required two-thirds majority; Prop. B (Cultural Center Bonds) was defeated; Prop. C (Zoo Bonds) appeared to have passed, though was too close to call; and Prop. E (Charter Amendment/PUC Bonds) lost by a wide margin, 62.9 to 37 percent. ▼



Jane Philomen Cleland

Hole puncher: Mark Brand (left) at the Collingwood polling station June 3.

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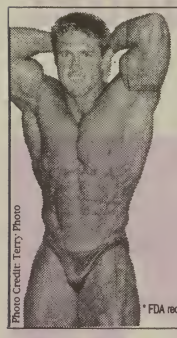


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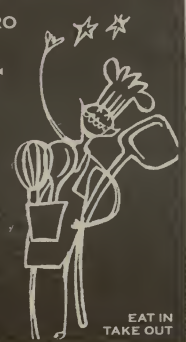
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Mayor's draft budget: something for everyone

$3.4 billion plan goes to supervisors

by Cynthia Laird

An upbeat Mayor Willie Brown presented his proposed budget for the 1997-98 fiscal year for San Francisco to the Board of Supervisors Monday, June 2. The $3.4 billion spending plan contains no new taxes and no major fee increases. The board's finance committee will hold its first round of public hearings on the budget beginning June 17.

Brown said economic growth in the city has enabled him to draft a budget that will direct expenditures "to areas where they are most needed for a healthier city, a cleaner city, a city more responsive to needs and that is very, very, very safe and comfortable for people to exist in."

Significantly, Brown has allocated $6.3 million in new general fund money for substance abuse treatment on demand. In addition to the 182 new treatment slots added by Brown in the 1996-97 fiscal year, 500 more treatment slots will be funded next year.

Health Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez said that she was extremely pleased with Brown's proposal. The Health Commission last month urged the mayor and supervisors to start funding the ambitious drug treatment program, which enables people to get help right away without waiting for a slot to become available.

"I'm delighted. Six hundred people will be able to be treated," Hernandez told the *B.A.R.* "It is a very good first step forward. The mayor's behind it, and the board's behind it."

Supervisor Susan Leal, finance committee chair, said Brown's proposal is "a fine start" for budget discussions.

The mayor has proposed $1.7 million in funding to supplement federal Ryan White CARE funds for HIV/AIDS services, and $3.5 million for protease inhibitors.

Brown, a stickler for clean streets, praised openly gay Department of Public Works director Mark Primeau for the job his staff has done and will continue to do if the budget's approved.

"I also intend to increase the attention to graffiti. I absolutely hate to see those markings all over town," Brown told the board.

Regarding public safety, the mayor proposes fully staffing the police department with an additional 120 officers. The budget also includes money for new vehicles, and proposes moving the police academy to Treasure Island.

The sheriff's department budget includes funds for addressing problems with County Jail #3 in San Bruno, against which there is a pending lawsuit.

Muni is another big item in Brown's budget. Initiatives for 1997-98 that are addressed in the proposed budget include fully funding the transit program.

"This will be the first time Muni has been fully funded in a budget," Brown said. "In the past, it was never more than 80 percent. This is 100 percent fully funded."

Budget items include funds for 43 new maintenance positions and investigators to provide more scrutiny of workers compensation claims. ▼

For dates of upcoming public hearings on the proposed 1997-98 budget, call the supervisors' clerk's office at (415) 554-5184.

Politicians as 'saints?'

MCC-SF to honor remarkable people

by Cynthia Laird

Saints Alive," an awards celebration started in 1991 by the Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco to honor the lives and work of remarkable people important to the gay community, will take place next Saturday, June 14, in the city. Four "saints" will be presented with awards, and others will be recognized as well.

Although the fifth annual event is a benefit for MCC-SF, tickets are nominally priced.

This year, politicians will be featured prominently; two of the "Saints Alive" are Assemblywoman Carole Migden and Supervisor Tom Ammiano. The other honorees are Anthony Turney, executive director of the Names Project; and Janice Mirikitani, president of the Glide Foundation.

Also being recognized are "angels." They include the Healing Alternatives Foundation (HAF) and the South of Market Merchants Individual Lifestyle Events (SMMILE).

HAF distributed medical marijuana immediately following last summer's raid of the Cannabis Buyers Club, when sources were scarce.

Reverend Jim Mitulski and the MCC board of directors authorized distribution at the Eureka Street church once, last August 18, and the church has been a staunch supporter of medical marijuana.

SMMILE is well-known for producing the Dore Alley and Folsom Street fairs, which have been held for the last 14 years.

The third honoree is the "Angel Project" inaugurated by former *Frontiers* editor Phil Julian.

Organizers promise an enjoyable evening with scrumptious food and entertainment in addition to the awards program. There will also be a community auction and the popular heirloom quilt raffle, with Suzy Berger and Frank Bizzarro.

"Saints Alive" began in 1991 as an outgrowth of the church; the first awards celebration was held in 1993. ▼

"Saints Alive" will be held at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 19th and Collingwood streets, beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are $15 per person, or tables of eight for $120. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (415) 863-4434.



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Time to take stock

Loretta Sanchez to speak at HRC gala in SF next Saturday

by Cynthia Laird

Freshman Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez, D-Orange County, will be the keynote speaker at this year's Human Rights Campaign gala in San Francisco, taking place next Saturday, June 14 at the Marriott Hotel. Sanchez narrôwly defeated homophobe Robert Dornan last November in one of the most hotly contested congressional races in the nation.

An estimated 1,500 people are expected to attend HRC's 13th annual fundraising event. The theme, "Taking Stock," is to celebrate the good work HRC has done, the work it continues to do, and the importance of continuing to invest in the future, said dinner co-chair Christopher Ruetz.

Openly gay actor Mitchell Anderson of the Fox TV series *Party of Five* will run the silent auction, said HRC spokesman David Perry.

In addition to cocktails and dinner, the evening program will include an award presentation. Kate Kendell, executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), will be honored with the combined James C. Hormel Community Service and Jerry Berg Leadership awards.

HRC's highlights from the past election year will also be shown, organizers said. Closing remarks will be delivered by Elizabeth Birch, HRC's executive director.

Afterwards, guests can dance until midnight.



Cynthia Laird

HRC's Elizabeth Birch.

"This year's gala focuses on HRC's many achievements of this past year," said Ellen Wagner, dinner co-chair. "It's also a time to start preparing for the work we need to undertake for next year's elections."

With over 200,000 members, HRC is the largest national lesbian and gay political organization, with members throughout the country. It lobbies Congress, provides campaign support, and educates the public to ensure that lesbian and gay Americans can be open, honest, and safe at home, at work, and in the community.

Most recently, HRC bought advertising time during the April 30 "coming out" episode of *Ellen*. Although the ad, which raised awareness that job discrimination based on sexual orientation remains legal in 41 states, did not air nationally, Bay Area viewers did see the commercial. ▼

Tickets for the gala are $150 or $250 each. The evening gets underway at 6 p.m., with the dinner program starting at 8 p.m. The Marriott is at Fourth and Mission streets. To purchase tickets, call (800) 494-8407 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. For more information about HRC, call its San Francisco office at (415) 437-2930.

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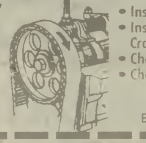


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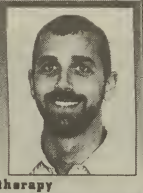
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Even counselors need counselors

Gay substance abuse program hit with sex bias allegations

by Dennis Conkin

A substance abuse counselor at New Leaf/Services For Our Community filed a complaint of gender discrimination with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC) May 20 against the lesbian and gay mental health and substance abuse services agency.

Jerry Burt had worked at 18th Street Services, once the nation's premiere outpatient gay male substance abuse treatment program, since October 1992, and through its merger with Operation Concern to become New Leaf in 1996. He continues to be employed as a substance abuse counselor at New Leaf, but has been on disability/worker's compensation since April.

Burt alleged to the HRC that he repeatedly asked for weekly, individual supervision at the agency but didn't really get any—while the agency provided weekly, individual supervision to a female substance abuse counselor.

Burt told the *Bay Area Reporter* that in the fall of 1994 regular weekly supervision to "discuss issues such as case load, client activity, treatment options, performance goals" and other topics related to his work as a counselor stopped.

According to Burt, supervision of counselors and staff at human service agencies is "extremely important." He pointed out that clients are troubled, and are often low income, with multiple problems and backgrounds of surviving sexual, emotional, and physical abuse, in addition to their drug or alcohol abuse issues.

"We work with such a fractured and traumatized community. The weight of the responsibility was overwhelming," he said.

Burt said his counseling caseload at the agency reached as high as 24 clients, in addition to three weekly group counseling sessions attended by between 8 and 14 people. He told the *B.A.R.* that one-to-one supervision is essential in supporting counselors and in ensuring that clients get appropriate and effective services.

"It gives the counselor a chance to get feedback. It helps the counselor from getting either too close or becoming too distant to clients. It allows the agency to be involved in what's going on with the clients and gives the counselor a chance to have feedback in terms of treatment questions," he said.

According to Burt, a "good one-third" of the clients he counseled were HIV-positive, and "as a rule" counselors at the agency received little if any emotional support when clients died – or committed suicide.

"There was a lot of trauma," he said.

The alleged lack of supervision created such intense emotional stress for Burt that he was treated for depression and was prescribed antidepressant drugs, but still received no individual supervision, the complaint alleges.

"My requests continued to be regularly ignored," Burt said in the complaint to the Human Rights Commission. "I began begging for them in general staff meetings, so much so, that other staff began to also ask why I was not receiving individual supervision."

The complaint also alleges that a female substance abuse counselor was receiving "regular and weekly supervision" during the period Burt asked for but not did not receive supervision, and that a female clinical supervisor told the staff when questioned about it that the supervision was provided because the counselor "is a woman."

Following the relocation of the program in 1996, Burt told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he briefly received individual supervision from a new supervisor – who left the agency a month later.

Burt said that when he informed the agency's substance abuse coordinator who was to serve as his supervisor that he needed "regular weekly supervision meetings," he was again turned down.

"Her response was, 'No, we can't do that, and if we had to do that, we would just hire people that did not need it [supervision],'" according to Burt.

Although the HRC complaint details a section from New Leaf's personnel manual that clearly states that "weekly supervision meetings are the norm," Burt said the coordinator later clarified her statement by saying "professionals would go to conferences, attend seminars, get new training, and wouldn't require weekly supervision."

Burt's allegations are just not true, according to New Leaf executive director Joe Neisen, Ph.D.

"New Leaf denies any allegations of discrimination, and we believe the complaint filed is unfounded. New Leaf is committed to non-discrimination as an agency providing services to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, and is particularly sensitive to issues regarding

next page ▶

Brunch benefit in Walnut Creek Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

The Genard AIDS Foundation in Contra Costa County is having a buffet brunch benefit this Sunday, June 8 in Walnut Creek. The foundation provides hospice services for people living with AIDS, and also runs a "Pals at Home" program.

Last year, Genard raised over $80,000 through similar volunteer-driven special events and other donations, said Dr. William T. Callahan, executive director.

There will be three seating times for brunch: 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. Tickets are a bargain at $15 per person, with $10 of each being tax deductible, said Callahan. ▼

The buffet brunch will be at the Cantina, at 1470 N. Broadway in Walnut Creek. For reservations, call Genard at (510) 735-2437.

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Muni investigates another alleged gay bashing by driver

by Dennis Conkin

A San Francisco gay man's claim that he was beaten last week by a cable car driver is under investigation, according to a spokesman for Municipal Railway.

Stephen Turner has filed a police report and contacted Community United Against Violence about the Thursday, May 22 incident.

Although Turner says no anti-gay epithets or hate speech were used during the altercation, he told the *Bay Area Reporter* he is sure the incident had a homophobic basis.

"I'm obviously gay. I'm effeminate, tall, and sort of pretty," Turner said. "Everyone has always assumed that I'm gay. I didn't have to come out of the closet. People just knew."

Turner said that he was assaulted shortly after midnight by a driver as a Mason Street line car cut short its run and turned into the front of the Jackson Street car barn, instead of continuing to the end of the line.

Turner said that he was returning to his home after having dinner with a couple of clients at Scoma's, a popular Fisherman's Wharf restaurant.

"I made a remark that I needed to go a few blocks further. There was no provocation. He grabbed my arm, punched me in the head and neck, and shoved me off the cable car onto my hands and knees – and kicked me two times," he said.

Turner alleged that the unidentified driver then fled into the transit line's cable car barn and disappeared.

"I followed him to report it and to ask them to call the police," he said. He encountered two uniformed Muni workers, and said they treated him with open smirking and hostility.

"They said no one had come in the barn and wouldn't call the police at first," Turner said.

A police report of the incident says, however, that a Muni mechanic claims Turner was "hanging off the cable car as it was driven into the Muni barn," and was "yelling racial epithets and berating Muni employees."

The police report also states that Turner was "extremely uncooperative," claimed he had been robbed, and that there were no scrape marks on his clothes.

A Muni spokeman told the *B.A.R.* that Turner's description of the alleged assailant does not match the Muni employee.

Not intoxicated

Turner said that after police arrived, they accused him of being intoxicated and called an ambulance to the scene "reluctantly."

"I had a couple of drinks at dinner, but I was not drunk or intoxicated," Turner said.

He said he had demanded an ambulance because of the possibility that his injuries were more serious than immediately apparent, and was treated at a local hospital and released.

"I'm wearing a brace around my upper chest, have sprained ligaments, and I'm taking [the pain reliever] Vicodin," Turner said.

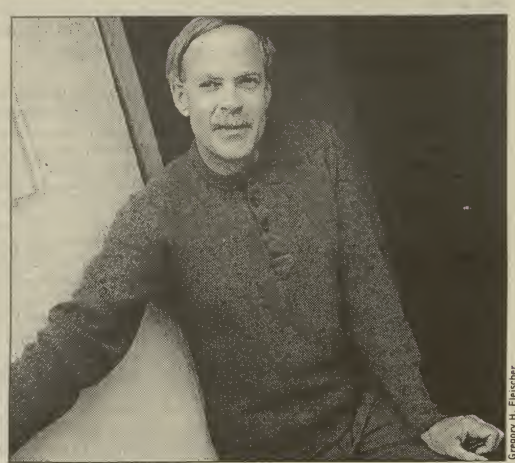
In addition to the physical injuries related to the violence, Turner told the *B.A.R.* he suffers from serious emotional trauma in the aftermath of the incident.

"I'm having nightmares. I've been afraid to go out. I was so depressed I couldn't even talk with anyone about it," he said.

"We take this complaint seriously," said Jennifer Rakowski, a client advocate for Community United Against Violence.

Rakowski said that the agency would provide Turner assistance through the formal Muni complaint process, as well as any civil or criminal legal proceedings in connection with the case.

Turner has posted notices near the area of the incident trying to obtain witnesses to the attack, including two passengers who left the cable car but who may have witnessed the beginning of the incident. ▼



Gregory H. Fletcher

Stephen Turner: "I'm effeminate, tall, and sort of pretty."

Sex bias

◀ previous page

discrimination and preferential treatment," Neisen said.

According to the Human Rights Commission, New Leaf has 21 days to formally respond to the complaint.

In formal discrimination complaints, the HRC attempts to mediate, but if mediation is rejected or fails, it conducts an investigation into the allegations and issues a finding.

A formal finding of discrimination by the HRC could lead to the imposition of fines against the agency, the revocation of city contracts, or debarment from applying for future city contracts. ▼

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ACT UP to Clinton: You're no Kennedy

by Wayne Turner and Steve Michael

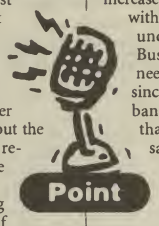
President Clinton invoked the imagery of President Kennedy launching the Apollo Project when he announced the goal of finding an AIDS prevention vaccine within ten years. In his speech at Morgan State University, Clinton adopted the rhetoric of ACT UP in its demand to end the epidemic, but his proposal has all the substance of "I feel your pain."

ACT UP first proposed in 1991 an all-out coordinated research effort to find a cure for AIDS, by mobilizing resources and bringing together researchers from diverse fields. The fast-track urgency behind the development of the atomic bomb, or landing an American on the moon, provided a useful precedent for AIDS activists advocating the kind of intensive effort necessary to find a cure for AIDS.

After activists trailed him during the 1992 Presidential primaries displaying "What About AIDS?" signs, Clinton finally promised at a May 1992 speech before gay community fundraisers in Los Angeles "to make AIDS a top priority" of his administration, and proposed a "Manhattan-type project to develop a cure for AIDS."

Yet Clinton failed to keep that promise once elected. His supporters deflected criticism from AIDS activists who demanded action, dismissing the notion of a research project to find an AIDS cure as too radical. The excuses followed: give Clinton more time, wait until the '94 elections, wait until the Democrats win back Congress, wait until Clinton's second term, wait until Al Gore is elected. For activists fighting for their very survival, delay equals death.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) took the ACT UP proposal and introduced it as a bill in Congress, the AIDS Cure Act. Lobbyists representing multi-million dollar AIDS service organizations campaigned against the act, fearful that it might detract from the steady stream of dollars flowing to them. With only two dozen co-sponsors, the AIDS Cure Act never made it to Congressional hearings. Activists never got the opportunity to testify about the lack of coordination of AIDS research, and the inefficiency at the National Institutes of Health.



In 1995, the Levine Working Group conducted a review of AIDS research efforts at the NIH, concluding that there is no coordination, or even communication, among its researchers. There remains no structure, or incentive, for researchers to work together on the myriad of AIDS research projects in both the public and private sector. Vaccine researchers at the Department of Defense do not communicate or cooperate with their counterparts at universities. Pharmaceutical corporations only rarely share their data with anyone.

President Clinton is perpetuating a cruel hoax on people living with AIDS.

The Office of AIDS Research at the National Institutes of Health serves as little more than a funding conduit for projects, with money being shifted from other Institutes, funneled through the OAR, and then back to the Institutes at the NIH.

The president who promised a cabinet-level AIDS Czar to direct national policy has appointed a series of failed, low-level bureaucrats who serve little more than a public relations role. The president who promised targeted, frank HIV prevention campaigns fired his surgeon general, under right-wing pressure, for stating that masturbation is safe sex. The much-touted funding increases fail to match the rising caseloads, with per person spending on AIDS less under Clinton than under George Bush. The President who supported needle exchange programs in 1992 has since refused to lift the federal funding ban, despite overwhelming evidence that funding such programs would save countless lives.

Now his proposed HIV prevention vaccine program would do nothing to save the lives of the millions already infected, and do nothing to consolidate or coordinate AIDS research. And although Clinton's shell game may make the recycling of existing resources look like substantial increases for AIDS, on paper at least, it merely reassigns a couple of dozen researchers, taking them off other projects, and fails to allocate resources for his Apollo Project beyond $17 million already budgeted – *less than the amount it took to develop and market the space drink Tang.*

By likening his meager proposal to the Kennedy Apollo Project, President Clinton is perpetuating a cruel hoax on people living with, and dying from AIDS. For those people, who are largely poor and without health insurance, their main concern is for the food stamps they lost under welfare reform, and ever-growing waiting lists for medical care, housing, drug treatment, and other survival services. Most important for people with AIDS and HIV is a cure.

President Clinton will leave a legacy far more scandalous than Whitewater or renting out the Lincoln Bedroom, as The President Who Abandoned People With AIDS. For them, the Clinton initiative is too little, too late. ▼

No more nattering nabobism

by John Birmingham

We AIDS activists must re-think our relationship with President Bill Clinton. We need a hero, not a punching bag.

On May 18, the president announced his first major initiative – as president – on AIDS. The *B.A.R.* reported, "[H]e committed the nation to developing an HIV vaccine within ten years, comparing it to John F. Kennedy's pledge to put a man on the moon in the 1960s." Right away, we started our loud chorus of criticism, skepticism, and sarcasm.

Bad-mouthing the president's AIDS vaccine initiative is a big mistake. We must stop reacting out of our own anger, frustration, and grief. We must get a grip on ourselves.

AIDS is not just about us: AIDS is about our loved ones who have died, our loved ones who now live with HIV and AIDS, and the hundreds of thousands of youngsters who will contract HIV during the next ten years.

We have an extremely serious obligation to our constituency, and we must keep their interests in mind – all the time. As activists, we cannot speak for ourselves only, nor should we shoot from the lip. Talk is cheap: we need results now.

Let's see the president's vaccine initiative for what it is: an opportunity to capture the imagination of the American people, inspire a real national dialogue on what needs doing, and keep AIDS at the top of the national agenda every day for the next ten years.

In short, the president's vaccine initiative offers us an opportunity to build a comprehensive and effective federal AIDS program, starting right now.

If the president's words are indeed a sow's ear, let's work to make them a silk purse.



We all know the Clinton record on AIDS since the 1992 election: an optimistic promise of a "Manhattan Project" to find an AIDS cure still unfulfilled, delay in finding an AIDS czar and still no high-profile appointment, still no federal funding for needle-exchange, and still no outreach and education targeted to teenagers at highest risk.

Let's build these agenda items into the president's vaccine initiative. We've spent four years rehearsing our arguments. Now let's take them to the table and get immediate action.

In May 1997, we are dealing with a president who cannot be reelected. His partner, Vice President Al Gore, is in the wings, watching public reaction to the vaccine initiative. Are we sending the message that no good words will go unpunished?

If Clinton's words are indeed a sow's ear, let's work to make them a silk purse.

Do we want to be excluded from the White House not just for the next three years, but for the following eight years as well?

Between now and 2001, the president will build his place in history. We cannot let him join ex-Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush in the annals of AIDS cowardice.

Read the lips of the most honest and effective cabinet member in the first Clinton Administration, ex-Secretary of Labor Robert Reich: "It will be difficult for [the president to initiate] any bold government programs. He has the bully pulpit, of course, and he is a marvelous preacher; he is eloquent as no president in living memory has been eloquent. And therein may lie his true place in history – as a man who was able to go some way toward healing some of the divides in this country through the power of persuasion."

Sixteen years into the holocaust, we've made enormous progress, but not enough. To quote Winston Churchill, it's not enough to say we've done our best: we must do what is necessary.

Take the president at his word, and hold him to it. Stop the wise-ass sound-bites, the too-cute put-downs, and the poor-little-us whining.

To paraphrase Don Corleone and ex-Vice President Spiro Agnew: What can we do? We can act like men and women – not like nattering nabobs of negativism.

Last Columbus Day weekend, we marched to the White House, tied posters of our beloved dead to the fence, and tossed the ashes of our beloved dead onto the White House lawn. Now let's make sure we get into the White House and stay in the White House.

In the president's May 18 speech, we have our engraved invitation. Let's not toss it into the garbage. ▼

LETTERS

Cartoon atrocity

The Hoover cartoon pictured in the *B.A.R.* May 22 is offensive and a grossly inaccurate insult to the person of the Dalai Lama. At a very sensitive time of preparing for what you call an historic meeting, your judgment in printing the cartoon is poor, to say the least.

The Dalai of Tibet does not hold personal animosity toward anyone – not the Chinese, who have committed and continue to commit atrocities against the Tibetan people, not homosexual men and women. He does, however, hold traditional Buddhist views regarding right and proper sexual behavior for men and women of good faith and spiritual intention – views which, when publicly expressed and printed for worldwide distribution, have harmful ramifications for sexual minorities and others.

On the world stage, the Dalai Lama is a leading proponent of compassion, understanding, kindness, and non-violent response among all people. I am grateful for his deep consideration of matters regarding sexual conduct.

Steve Peskind
Buddhist AIDS Project
San Francisco

[The editor responds: Mark Twain said it best. "Sacred cows make the best hamburger." Given the Dalai Lama's famous tolerance, which you point out, we're sure he understands the role of a political cartoonist.]



Frosted flakes

Hurray for your "Hilton Homo Hair Hysteria" article and the brave stand by Duncan Fox. It takes courage to stand up to employers when they have the nerve to tell an employee how to dress or how to wear their hair. I mean, who sets these outdated standards? Is it some old fart with wing-tipped shoes, a bald head and pasty complexion?

It's about time that employers realize once and for all that they are not in business to make money for themselves or corporations when they do business in San Francisco. Employers are only here to be understanding and provide benefits and cater to the whims of their oppressed workers. A place of business might once have been a place of business, but in San Francisco should be classified as a place where one can make political statements, visit friends and partners, and do drugs if one wishes, and most of all, be a house of fashion, where clothing and hairstyle are paramount. Frosted hair, a decent tan, that is what really counts, and Mr. Fox is correct in his stand against employee oppression. With the help of the Human Rights Commission, let's hope that the Hilton Hotel Corporation will be punished and put in its rightful place and made to behave.

In the meantime, I cannot imagine why Duncan Fox would even want to work there or even accept a paycheck from such biased people. If I had any hair to speak of, I certainly would frost mine and join in a demonstration. The nerve of some employers!

Andrew J. Betancourt
San Francisco

Too hot to handle

When I read Gabriel Rotello's new book on HIV prevention, *Sexual Ecology*, I was afraid that it might be just too hot for our community to handle. His thesis is that we can only halt the AIDS epidemic among gay men if we collectively step out of the fast lane and develop a new sexual culture which emphasizes committed, even monogamous, relationships. I can't imagine a more controversial point of view. As a gay man who has always taken full advantage of my sexual liberties, I would prefer that Rotello's thesis not be correct, but his reasoning is powerful and persuasive. I predicted that he would either be ignored completely, or ridiculed and subjected to name-calling.

Unfortunately, that is just what is happening. Linnea Due in her review (*B.A.R.*, May 15) turns up her nose at his argument, but nowhere engages it. Instead, she accuses him of histrionics, of ranting and raving, of being unethical and myopic, and so on. This facile dismissal of an important book does a disservice to the community. In *Sexual Ecology* a first-rate mind advances a powerful argument for an unpopular idea, supports it with hard data, and presents it with a calmness and clarity that is rare in the highly politicized world of HIV prevention. His work is certain to affect the course of future prevention efforts.

I applaud him for his courage, and I hope every gay man who is concerned about the epidemic will read this book. We may not all like what he has to say, but his position is convincingly argued and grounded in hard science. He may not be completely right, but he is certainly not completely wrong, and we ignore him at our peril.

Tom Moon, MFCC
San Francisco

Community support

Almost a year ago (July 4, 1996) you ran a letter to the editor titled "Giving back to the community." The substance of the letter was the changing face of the neighborhood and how community support was one way of maintaining customers' patronage. In this letter, Prisms Salon noted a number of neighborhood changes in the dozen years since they opened, and also noted the number of their customers and staff that have been affected by, or lost to the AIDS pandemic.

At the conclusion of the letter, Prisms Salon stated that they would begin donating a portion of their entire retail profit to Under One Roof, the shop that benefits the AIDS community, because of the benefit to the over 50 AIDS service organizations that Under One Roof helps support.

On behalf of Under One Roof, and especially our participating agencies, I would like to thank Prisms Salon for their unique way of contributing to the community. Every month since their letter appeared, we have received a check representing a percentage of sales in the salon, and every month we are reminded of the broad community we seek to serve.

AIDS remains with us, miracle drugs or not, and the need for services is even greater as people are living longer with HIV disease. The hundreds of volunteers and contributors to Under One Roof and its participating agencies are part of the larger community, and appreciate the support from within the community. Support for Under One Roof allows us to support a large variety of agencies, including some of the smaller agencies who need help the most. We are all in this fight together. Whether you fight AIDS as a volunteer, a contributor, a caregiver, or just by shopping in our store, you are making a difference. We would like to recognize Prisms for their extra special efforts.

Paul Olsen
General Manager, Under One Roof
San Francisco

Friday's child

[The following letter was sent to columnist Wayne Friday:]

Re "Our Man Friday," May 15: Other than sucking face with his boyfriend for the benefit of skybox TV cams, and representing gays as rich white boys who think blood-letting and urine-drinking make good party tricks, *how* has Jack Davis been "totally committed to equal rights for the lesbian/gay community?"

You name Davis as a friend alongside Bob Ross, Bob Golovich, and Mick Ridolfi (and, as the irrelevant photo implies, Harvey Milk), and then you proceed to advocate Davis' political causes. Op-ed columnist or not, how is that ethical journalism, Mr. Friday?

When Mr. Davis puts some openly gay or female players on his team, or when he comes up with something better than a shopping mall for the people of Hunter's Point, *then* I'll believe he cares about more than his wallet or your friendship.

"There are numerous cities ... just waiting to make the 49ers owners an even better offer should the voters here turn them down." Is that an idle threat? Frankly, with Davis at the helm, the 49ers are becoming as much as embarrassment to our city as poor Jack's party was to himself. If he doesn't care about the disenfranchisement of Hunter's Point or our "vast gay/lesbian community" enough to stay regardless, Davis can take a hike, and take his mall and downtown-eyesore blueprints with him.

Incidentally, I too have a "loyal friend" who is not "tough, volatile, arrogant, vindictive, politically ruthless ... unforgiving, and ... mean-spirited." My friend may not be dealing with the faux pas of a party gone awry, but he is dealing with the death of a lover, Jeffrey Trail, at the hands of serial murderer Andrew Cunanan, and no amount of money or voter approval can ease his pain.

Even Cunanan has the blind support of friends, and Dan White, who killed your friend Harvey Milk, had teary-eyed sympathizers. I wouldn't want to read their self-serving political pandering in a column, and I'm sorry I read yours.

And if you, Mr. Friday, give a rat's ass about the mostly black community of Hunter's Point, why have I never seen the issue before in your column, why are all the famous friends you suck up to white, and why do you refer to Mayor Brown as "Da Mayor" and "Willie" when you respectfully use surnames for everyone else (even Sonny Bono)?

As a journalist, civil rights activist, and white gay male, I for one am ashamed to call you "brother." You are a disgrace to reporters and editors, to the memory of Harvey Milk, to the people of San Francisco, and to the fifth day of the week from which your name was stolen.

Brent Calderwood
San Leandro

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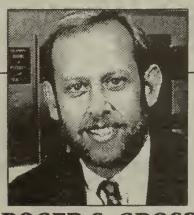
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Stared down at The Cafe

I am a heterosexual woman with many gay male and female friends. Last night I went to The Cafe on Market and Castro to celebrate the birth of my lesbian sister's baby with a male friend. I have always been sympathetic towards my friends' complaints of prejudice against them by "bigoted, hate-mongering straights." So I was surprised by the treatment my friend and I received while at The Cafe. First, my male friend and I were quite literally stared down by a group of gay men, who indicated that this was "their bar" and we had no business being there. As we left, a group of five gay women erupted in mocking laughter as I hobbled down the steps, leaning on my male friend for support, as I had twisted my knee an hour earlier. The reason I was the butt of this laughter, however, was because I happened to be wearing very high heels, and it probably appeared that I was a brain-dead straight fashion victim, hobbling in high heels. The fact is I would wear high heels if I was straight, gay, or bisexual, because I like them, and I should not be judged for my sexual preference or clothing, just as the gay population should not be judged for their sexuality or manner of dress. The reverse discrimination that I personally experienced at The Cafe was appalling.

Georgianne Fastaia
San Francisco

A tacky thing happened on the way to the forum

As a regular reader of your newspaper I was very disturbed to see your one-liner comment following Sandy DeWine's letter, "Why can't men understand"? (May 8). Her letter stands alone as brave and right on the mark in my opinion, and the rest of your readers were done a disservice by your tacky comment. I am saddened to see your "last word, one-liners" increasingly common in the letters section and feel for the most part they are unnecessary. In cases where you are giving information or a correction as to an earlier misunderstanding it is obvious that the italics in parenthesis are helpful. But in many other cases, it is anything but helpful and makes you look not only ridiculous but like very unprofessional journalists. Why not let your readers make up their own minds as to the quality and legitimacy of the letter being printed? We don't need you to provide your two cents' worth! Just give us the forum and let the letter-writing take care of the rest.

Sean Calhoun
Concord, CA

Rightist Cubans in Miami

[The following letter was sent to gay history columnist David Bianco:]

Re: "The Other Cuba," I enjoyed very much your article about Cuba's anti-gay purges back in 1965. It would be of great benefit to the San Francisco gay community if we let them know the rightist-fascist practices that some members of the Cuban community in Miami, USA are practicing to the Latin American and Spanish artistic class that visited Cuba to entertain its community.

Main performers ranging from Joan Manuel Serrat (Spain), to Mercedes Sosa, Nacha Guevara, Alberto Cortéz, Facundo Cabral (Argentina), the music of Violeta Parra (Chile), Chico Buarque, Caetano Veloso (Brazil), and until recently and after 30 years of banning their records and presentations in Miami, Luececita Benítez and Danny Rivera (Puerto Rico). Recently, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, the great Cuban jazz piano player, was exposed to insults and bomb threats in the nightclub where he was going to perform in Miami. A Cuban journalist was physically attacked for covering the show.

To add insult to injury in my country, Puerto Rico, the same Cubans revoked the contract of one of our best salseros, Andy Montañez, after he met with Silvio Rodríguez, one of the best authors and performers of the new Cuban Song (*La Nueva Trova Cubana*). Mr. Montañez is a U.S. resident with all the rights to perform in any city of this country.

A letter similar to this one was sent to *El Nuevo Día* in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and the Spanish version of the *Miami Herald*. None of them published the letter. Both are linked to rich Puerto Rican and Cuban families.

While Nelson Mandela was receiving honors and access to the Royal Houses in Europe, he was snubbed by the Cuban then-mayor of Miami, Xavier Suarez. His sin was that Fidel Castro had backed the ANC while he was still in prison. The Spanish caudillo Francisco Franco never broke diplomatic relations with Cuba. And I bet that if he had gone to Miami, he would have been received with full honors.

These are the same Cubans that rub elbows with Jesse Helms, Robert Dole, and Ronald Reagan.

Next time you want a vacation in warm weather, visit Cuba. Maybe the natives will not be wearing Versace or Armani, but they will be friendly and warm.

Jorge Rodríguez Sanabria
San Francisco

Medical misinformation

While Jim Provenzano ("Sports Complex") may be very knowledgeable in athletics, his medical information seems questionable and even dangerous, contingent on who reads and is influenced by it.

Dr. Lorraine Day, at least ten years ago, quoted the Pasteur Institute in France as stating that HIV can live for one week on a surface. AIDS educators warn us not to share razor blades, toothbrushes, or syringes, because they carry blood residue at times.

Yet in "Blood sport" (*B.A.R.*, May 15), Mr. Provenzano states, "HIV, once exposed to air, dies." I believe he is confusing it with spermatazoan. The virus does not die immediately in oxygen.

Anand
San Francisco

[Dr. Day has said many things that we don't believe. You should talk to the following letter-writer.]

Government penetration

I do want to thank Dr. Hernandez for putting her views in print (May 15). We would all be better off if we would agree with her statements, "Individuals who choose to attend a sex club… may have a valid civil libertarian based argument that he/she should be allowed the privacy of a closed space" and "these clubs were important venues for social gathering(s)… ." Ms. Hernandez should stop there and follow the prescription, "Do no harm."

It would be helpful if Dr. Hernandez would identify those "others" who are attacking her policy. Could it be the Milk Club, which unanimously urged the SFDPH to eliminate the ban on privacy in sex clubs and asked for involving gays and lesbians on regulations involving them? Dr. Hernandez says, "I personally convened and participated in discussions along with the Safe Sex Coalition, club owners… ." I personally attended (before Dr. Hernandez even had her current job) the group which Katz says created the "standards," and its name is the "Coalition for Healthy Sex." That group specifically stated unanimously (see *B.A.R.*, March 20), "[P]ublic hearings on the regulations were not held, nor did the CHS have an opportunity to comment."

There is a saying, war is too important to leave to the generals, and Hernandez illustrates health is too important to be left to the "health department." It would be futile to discuss "facts" about AIDS with the government's AIDS officer, and it would be irrelevant, since that is *not* the issue. Nobody suggests doors cause AIDS. The question of penetration involved is that of government penetration of individual space to remove privacy. As a Puritan is defined as uncomfortable there is someone in the world not stopped from enjoying themselves, Dr. Hernandez will not rest as long as someone is not prohibited by government from being "unsafe" together. Whatever the importance of AIDS, the freedom of gays to associate is more basic, more fundamental, and more important.

Ms. Hernandez follows the SF "public health professional" habit of using words to mean whatever they wish them to mean at the time. For Dr. Hernandez, "community" means "AIDS prevention providers." It is not surprising she is able to get agreement from that "community," which owes its financial well-being to her. Within that community, she finds her policy the "moderate" alternative to its extremes of opinion-"We must close all sex clubs so I can use anti-sex propaganda to raise more money for my job-related perks" versus "We must use sex clubs so I can use education propaganda to raise more money for my job-related perks."

If a subsequent SFDPH leader determined the way to "declare victory over this epidemic" was to euthenize HIV-positives and incarcerate gay men, would that fit under the same policy? We don't have to go back to the Nazis for such public health precedents—we had Dr. Lorraine Day working at the SFDPH hospital, and Republican doctors in national and state legislatures regularly introduce anti-gay laws to "fight the AIDS emergency." They also are "saving lives."

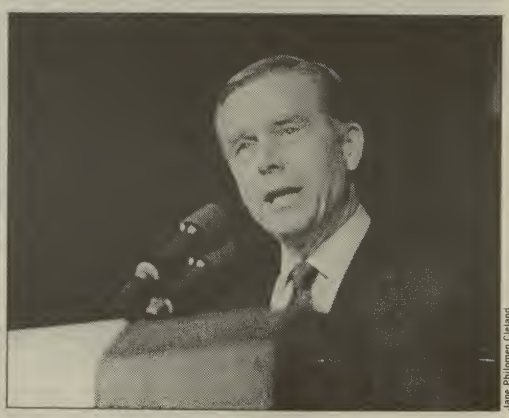
The difference is that we are supposed to operate under a government of *laws*, not of diseases. Under this system, the government derives its powers from the people. In this system, "valid civil libertarian-based arguments" *do* rule. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men … are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights." The rights are not *earned*, they do not have "responsibilities" attached, and they do not have asterisks voiding them when an overpaid bureaucrat gathers its staff and calls an "emergency" for its purposes.

Jerry Jansen
San Francisco

Please keep your letters short, to the point, and legible. Mail signed originals to the *Bay Area Reporter*, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco CA 94103; sorry, no faxes or e-mails. Please include your telephone number for verification purposes. And be forewarned: the editor occasionally puts tacky one-liners at the ends of some letters.

Pete's progress

by Wayne Friday



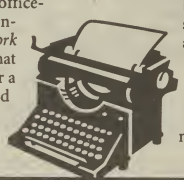
Jane Philomen Cleland

Pete gets repackaged: The new, nicer Wilson 1997.

California political analysts and players in both parties are beginning to speculate about what Governor **Pete Wilson**, now 63, plans to do after he completes his second term as head of the nation's most populous state. Wilson has only 19 months left to serve in Sacramento as the Golden State's chief executive.

In his 35-year political career, Governor Wilson has also been a presidential candidate, a U.S. senator, the mayor of San Diego, and has served in both houses of the state legislature. Wilson watchers in the state capital claim that the Republican, who ran for president as a "moderate" but always tried to appease the conservative wing of his party, now seems to have mellowed as his governorship nears its end.

For instance, once a critic of welfare mothers and immigrants and hostile to the interests of gays, Wilson, in the opinion of some pundits, appears to be casting a more sympathetic eye toward those who have never enjoyed the favor of Republican office-holders. In a recent interview in the *New York Times*, Wilson noted that California is no longer a troubled state plagued with fires, floods, and earthquakes, but rather a state where crime is down and spending on education is up. On issues he's personally championed, the governor noted that welfare overhaul is popular with voters in both parties, and affirmative action and illegal immigration are now important issues across the country, not just in California. Wilson even recently referred to welfare recipients as "our fellow Californians," a statement that totally surprised his critics in the Democratic Party.



Our Man Friday

Perhaps with an eye toward a presidential race in 2000, Pete Wilson now claims that he not only wants to help welfare mothers, struggling immigrants and kids from the ghetto, but is also offering to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on hiring more teachers and providing badly needed child care. When asked whether or not he was considering a run for the White House or another U.S. Senate try, Wilson replied, "Well, I'm actually giving it all some thought, but I'm preoccupied right now with trying to move my agenda for the balance of my time here in Sacramento." He added, however, that he is "not ruling out *anything* in the future. I would like *some* role in the future that would permit me to continue to try to affect policy."

Is Pete Wilson beginning to worry about history's judgment of him, or is he attempting to shape a profile that could land him the Republican presidential nomination next time around? Those who have followed the governor's long career believe he thinks he can hold his own in a large field of Republican candidates who want to replace **Bill Clinton**. Many of those closest to the still ambitious Republican chief exec are quietly saying that the "new" Pete Wilson will be among the first to enter the GOP presidential sweepstakes. (Massachusetts Senator **John Kerry** will probably be the first Democratic contender.) These same supporters would also be quick to point out that Wilson has been underestimated before, with dire results for his opponents. Just ask **Kathleen Brown**.

Politics and people

If Senator **Dianne Feinstein** does announce for governor, look for Lieutenant Governor **Gray Davis** to speedily switch to the race for attorney general.

Word around City Hall is that Supervisor **Leslie Katz** has some serious fence-mending to do with renters' groups. Some have taken to calling her "flip-flop Leslie" and "cowardly Katz" behind her back.

Will President Clinton do the country a favor and settle the **Paula Jones** case out of court? Well, I'm betting he will. Can he really afford more revelations about his alleged extramarital activities, much less vivid details concerning his nether regions? Didn't **Gennifer Flowers** already embarrass him on that score? (Seems Bill isn't a big guy *everywhere.*)

Jones is now "happily married" and living in Long Beach with her husband and two children. She claims she only wants her "good name" back. That and a few hundred grand, of course. For the Prez's part, he only wants to "get on with the country's business" and put this behind him. Certainly, the lawyers for this noble pair ought to be able to spare us the prolonged spectacle of poor, pitiful Paula and big, bad Bill tearing down the other's "honor."

From the Now-It-Can-Be-Told Dept.: When Supreme Court Chief Justice **William H. Rehnquist** swore President Clinton into office last January, he was heard to utter, "Good luck," as in, "You'll need it." What the Chief Justice knew and Clinton did not was that only five days earlier, the Supreme Court had voted unanimously (though it was not announced until last week) that a president does not have constitutional immunity from lawsuits unrelated to his official duties, thus clearing the way for the Paula Jones case to proceed.

Those who were there tell me that the two-hour campaign-style head-to-head debate last Tuesday between former Veep **Dan Quayle** and former NY Governor **Mario Cuomo** at U.C. Davis was a beaut. The no-holds-barred debate reportedly saw Cuomo at his best and Quayle doing "better than anyone expected" against the brilliant New Yorker.

East Bay Congresswoman **Ellen Tauscher**, the first Democrat to represent the longtime GOP 10th District, apparently is doing everything right in her freshman term. Even some influential Republicans are publicly praising Tauscher as a "Dianne Feinstein-type Democrat" whom they could easily support for re-election next year.

Don't ask, don't tell, don't even hint: TV megastar **Rosie O'Donnell**, reacting to persistent rumors that she is a lesbian, told *Time Out N.Y.* that "I don't think I will ever discuss my personal social life." (Right on, Rosie. We don't need another "star" like **Ellen DeGeneres** blabbing on about her personal life – and who the hell cares, anyway?)

Several San Francisco friends of former White House Press Secretary **Dee Dee Myers** attended her wedding last weekend to journalist Todd Purdum in Chicago. Myers was once press secretary for the **Frank Jordan** for Mayor campaign, before hitting the big time.

What's in a name? Big bucks and tony accommodations, apparently. The D.C. law firm of Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand is giving **Bob Dole** an annual salary of $600,000, plus an expense account, plus – get this – a *14-room* suite, in return for the former presidential nominee's Capitol Hill contacts.

Jesse Costello-Good, the former Youth Commission president and high school senior who is currently an intern in Supervisor **Tom Ammiano**'s office, gave the very impressive keynote speech at last week's Harvey Milk Club's 20th anniversary party. If this young man, only 17, is an example of the future leadership of the gay rights movement, we'll do just fine after those who started this fight are gone and forgotten. **Harvey Milk** would have been damned proud of you, Jesse.

In the nation's capital, Clinton administration officials said this week that they will soon propose expanding Medicaid to cover low-income people who have been infected with the virus that causes AIDS but do not show any symptoms of the disease. The government could then pay for potentially costly drugs that block the development of AIDS. Under current rules, if patients develop AIDS and become disabled, then they can qualify for Medicaid. The new proffered drugs prevent disability, but patients are typically unable to obtain them until they become severely ill with AIDS or related ailments. ▼









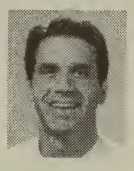
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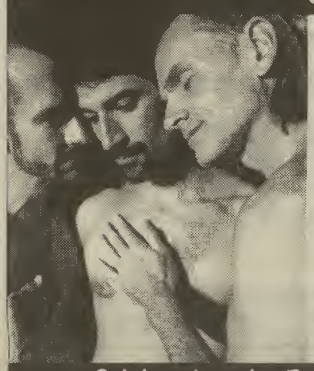
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Literary lionesses



Jane Philomen Cleland

Author/activist Jewelle Gomez (left) introduces keynote speaker Dorothy (*Bastard Out of Carolina*) Allison May 31 at the National Center for Lesbian Rights' annual dinner dance fundraiser at the Marriott. Over 1,000 people attended the NCLR event, which saw Judge Mary Morgan present Judge Donna Hitchens with the Founders Award and the daughters of the late Mary Ward receive the Justice Award from NCLR's Kate Kendell. Marga Gomez enlivened the evening with her antics as emcee.

Going for the throat

by Beth Elliott

What are friends for but to come up with wacky yet totally cool things to do together? My friend Denise and her girlfriend Alma recently upped the ante by gathering a gang for a Tuvan throat singing concert presented by the Asian-American Jazz Festival. Explain? But of course. Tuva is a mountain country squeezed in between Mongolia and Siberia. It was independent from 1922 through 1944 and printed beautiful diamond-shaped stamps. Throat singing – there are several techniques – is using overtones to sing three or four notes at once, and Kongar-ol Ondar is one of its premier exponents.

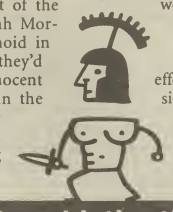
So is San Francisco blues man Paul "Earthquake" Pena, originally from the Cape Verde Islands. Earthquake says he got a clue about the low note technique by listening to Howlin' Wolf records. (Are you still with me here? Good. It gets weirder.) Earthquake backs Ondar on dobro. Ondar sings a traditional shaman's chant for the late physicist Richard Feynman, whose curiosity about Tuva helped lead to a revival of throat singing, which had been discouraged by the Soviets.

After Ondar's set, it's Yoko Noge and her Jazz Me Blues Band. She's from Osaka and plays barrelhouse piano in Chicago, singing with a raspy accent like Marlene Dietrich. She's got a Euro-American soprano sax cat, Japanese bassist, Afro-American vocalist, and Afro-Japanese drummer. Both acts rock the joint, and not a soul even whispers the M-word. You know – "multicultural." We're digging the music too much to objectify these fine musicians with identity politics. It's a Bay Area thing, yay!

You Can OutDISH! It But Can You Take It? Dept.: It seems that tiny Silicon Valley weekly given to bragging about the "bigger" population in their city (yo, size queens!) is touting the alleged superiority of its news department. On what grounds? That this commentator bit on that on-line story about Utah Mormons alarmed that kindergartners were playing "Farmer in the Dell" with two girls as the farmer and farmer's wife. I'm neither surprised nor really care that it turned out to be a hoax (despite my source's vow it was from AP) – remember my subtext of the blurry boundary between satire and reality in this wacky world?

Nonetheless, somebody at *OutNOW!* is sitting around with one thumb on the stem of a stopwatch (and the other who knows where) timing my expected "retraction." Well, golly gee, let's see what horrible, nasty things I said about the "family values" defenders *OutNOW!* is so heatedly defending.

Hmmm, the gist of the column is that Utah Mormons are so paranoid in their homophobia they'd even bust an innocent game of "Farmer in the Dell" if it looked like anything about it smacked of imitating same-gender marriage.



Hmmm. Y'all gotta help me out here, people; I'm, like, really straining to find the inaccurate assertion. I mean, we're talking about the folks who preached from their pulpits that the Equal Rights Amendment was 40 pages long and mandated unisex restrooms.

Suspect standards

Oh, now I get it – the problem was saying that they actually did pitch fits, instead of saying they were probably capable of going postal! Golly darn, is my face red! I guess I should have held my commentary to their news reportage standards. Not that this would have made any real difference, since their factual standards are represented in my experience by the time they put a writer for another gay paper up to placing a story in the *East Bay Express* claiming *OutNOW!* was the only "queer" paper covering the East Bay – former *B.A.R.* reporter Mary Ann Swissler's multiple East Bay stories in each of our issues notwithstanding! I guess you don't have to check facts when you make them up from scratch.

Commentators have leeway – if not an obligation – to go beyond reportage to interpretation, speculation, relation to larger issues, and the like. For example, were I doing a news story on President Clinton's Supreme Court defeat on holding off a trial with Paula Jones till he's out of office, I would have to limit what I wrote to his attorney's insistence Da Prez was looking forward to clearing his name. As a commentator, however, I can – and should – mention that on *Larry King*, the lawyer was squirming in his chair as though no one had let him near a bathroom in two days. I could read into his body language the possibility that the nine-zip shellacking he'd taken had been followed by a good old-fashioned Arkansas butt-chewing, which would suggest his client is doing some serious worrying about his impending day in court and its effect on next year's congressional elections.

Actually, I think *OutNOW!* is not a bad little paper (your city may be "bigger," but our paper is "thicker," heh heh, heh heh!). It has columnists who offer an alternative to the standard community line – always a plus in my book. So why this inferiority complex? For all their talk about fact checking, they could try actually reading my column sometime instead of referring to "the expected whining." Because I do not whine. Bitch, yes. Wax sarcastic, definitely. Spit in various eyes, fer sure. Fold, spindle, and mutilate, absolutely. This way to the buzzsaw, guys – watch your step. But whine? *Moi*? Never. That's the kind of assessment I'd expect from people who can't tell the difference between news and commentary – which should qualify them, should their paper fold, for writing "News Briefs" for the *Bay Times*.

Now for one more Texas Star Party story. Friend Jay had brought some tasty flavored coffee for dessert but had mistakenly grabbed whole beans in his dash through the supermarket. With no grinder in the van, we pondered how to improvise. As he put beans between two paper towels on the pavilion floor and hammered away with a propane can, I couldn't resist an appropriate voice-over: "High in the mountains of Pangaea, Ogg Valdez picks only the finest beans to smash between rocks for his coffee." I like to think Gary Larson would have been proud. ▼

Grrrls, grrrls, grrrls!

by Heather Shirkey



Scrubs away scum! The beautiful Brillo web site will scratch your itch.

Ah, the Web: a collection of thousands and thousands of special-interest communities, existing not just for the benefit of themselves but as a resource and reference point to members of other online communities. Gay and lesbian groups were among the first to hit the cyberwaves in the early '90s, with queer sites being among the top 10 visited areas on the Web at that time. With the advent of a virtual venue, the gay community has become more unified, educated and connected. No doubt that cyber sistas and femme friends alike have been a huge part, successfully forging their own way in this new domain. So, if you're feeling "geeky" or "grrly" ...or both, check out the online homes of our cyber sistas! (To gain quick linking access, visit the Geek Grrrl site at **http://www.sirius.com/~hezaa/bar**, most recently updated by cybersleuth Juniper Bacon.)



Let's start off by getting organized with a premier online lesbian site. Lesbian.org (**http://www.lesbian.org**) has a little something for every grrrl in your life, and powers the female resource arena. The site's focus is to "promote lesbian visibility on the Internet, and to provide resources and information for cyberdykes everywhere." Share with other geek gals: coming out stories, lesbian life, events, and book recommendations, among myriad other topics. The site also features national and local listings, and a message board for any desired female interactivity. Also, lesbian.org's list of links is a great gal starting point when searching for female resources on the Web.

If geek grrrl unity is what you seek online, Webgrrls (**http://www.webgrrls.com**) is the group for you! An international organization with local chapters around the world, Webgrrls provides an opportunity and forum for networking and uniting, in cyberspace and in reality! Grrrls can seek job opportunities, offer assistance to other women, volunteer to mentor, and share interests, online and at regularly scheduled in-person meetings and events. Visit the site to find a chapter in your area or to find out how to start one. (In San Francisco, you can visit the Web site: **http://www.webgrrls.com/sf**, or e-mail sanfran@webgrrls.com.)

Perhaps your search online is for a more prrrsonal effeminate affiliation. Well, let the Funky Diva at "Grrrlz on Grrrlz" guide you to the grrrl of your dreams (**http://www.spiritone.com/~sappho/grrrlz**). Are you looking for the "indiscriminate grrrl," bi beauties, growling grrrlz, or a lovely lesbian? This online meeting forum has got it all! Even if you're the type who wants them all to come to you, you can put your cat call online via a personal ad of your own.

Weaving a more intense bond with women more on the techie side of things is just a click away, at "Women Entering Avatar and Virtual Environments," or WEAVE (**http://www.ccon.org/weave**). Through their exploration of virtual realities, these wise women delve deeper into cyberspace, where there yet remains no "cyber-glass ceiling." The San Francisco-based group have met about such online virtual environs as The Palace, Alpha Worlds, and Worlds Away's Dreamscape.

The WEAVE site is brief, but it contains thorough notes from the group's first meetings and an invitation to join. This is a site to watch as time goes by. They are headed for a glorious journey through cyberspace as they forge the women's virtual reality frontier.

Does searching the Web still get you feeling a bit abrasive, though? "Brillo" (**http://www.virago-net.com/brillo/contents.htm**) is where you can scratch your itch! Brillo features "biting feminist technology from a group of women working to increase visibility of women on the Web." Now in its third issue, this online zine covers contemporary technology tidbits as related to women, like: the Net as a race- and gender-free zone, women who work heavy-duty in technology, female religion on the Web, art, and our favorite idol, Xena. Brillo's fun, sassy graphics and relatively quick load time give this site a clean sweep on the "must visit" list.

As you may have already discovered, femme sites abound on the Internet, and the act of linking from one grrrl spot to the next can be dizzying. A fabulous femme has pulled it all together for us, though, with a full search engine designed for women. "Femina" (**http://www.femina.com**) was created to "provide women with a comprehensive, searchable directory of links to female-friendly sites." Find all the girly greats from humanities to health, to business, all in one elegantly organized spot. Enter a search term to do a specialized search, or use Femina's tailored category listings. Femina brings it all together for you.

Bringing it all together is what the Web is about. So join your cyber sistas and dive in! The surfing is fine. Days can be lost while you happily wade through the endless number of girly greats flourishing on the Web. So, enjoy ...and perhaps we'll see you in a few days! ▼

Bringing it all together is what the Web is about. So join your cyber sistas and dive in! The surfing is fine. Days can be lost while you wade through an endless number of girly greats on the Web.



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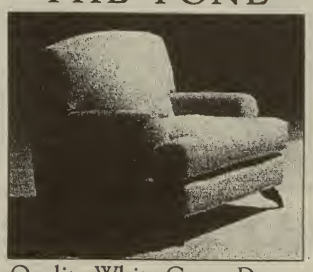
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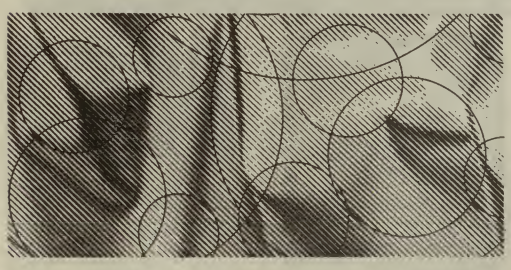
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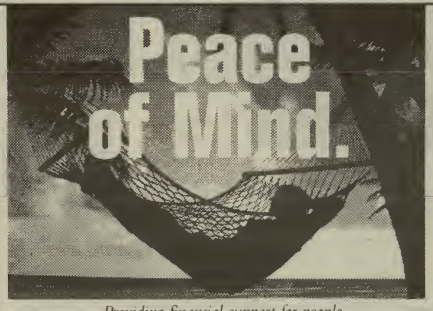
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Randy Klein's research shows most men are "slightly dissatisfied" with penis-enlargement surgery.

Penile reform: a growing movement

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

Queer Science

I recently watched – a little queasily – as a Los Angeles-area surgeon performed an operation to lengthen a man's penis. As an assistant tugged on the organ, the surgeon sliced through the shaved skin of the man's pubic area, then through the moorings that held the penis to the pubic bone, allowing it to dangle further downward than it had before. The surgeon inserted a drain and sewed up the four-inch wound. All that remained was for the patient to recover from the spinal anesthesia and to pay the bill – $7,500.

The man was instructed to begin pulling gently on the penis, a few days after the operation. Later, he will have to keep the penis in traction for several hours a day, by hanging weights from it. In a few months, he will return for a second operation (included in the same price-tag). This time, the surgeon will take two strips of cutaneous and fatty tissue from his buttocks and graft them under the skin along both sides of the penis, bulking it out in the same way as a bun bulks out a hot dog. If all goes well, the man will finally have the penis he desires – both longer and thicker than the one he was endowed with.

It doesn't always go well. There has been at least one death associated with penis-enlargement surgery. (That surgeon is now in jail.) One man developed a serious infection of the pubic bone. (That surgeon had his license revoked.) Many others have ended up with penises that are lumpy, distorted, or shorter than before.

Although the surgeon I visited told me that he can add one-and-a-half inches to the length of the erect penis, there have until recently been no objective studies of the effects of penis-enlargement surgery, either on the dimensions of the penis or on the psychological well-being of the men who undergo it. Sexologist Randy Klein therefore set out to answer these questions as part of her Ph.D. dissertation at the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality in San Francisco.

Klein obtained data from 65 men who had undergone penis-enlargement surgery at least a year previously. Prior to surgery, most of the men had penises of average length and thickness. The commonest reason given for having surgery was the belief that the procedure would increase their self-esteem. The men paid an average of $5,900 for the surgery.

To my mind, if people want to improve on their natural endowments, more power to them. But they should be aware of the drawbacks, side effects, and limitations of the procedure.

Most of the men reported that their penises were indeed thicker than before the operation. As to length, most of the men said that their penises were longer, but only when in the flaccid state. There was no change in the average length of the men's penises when erect. In addition, all the men had permanent, visible scars from the surgery.

When Klein asked the men about their satisfaction with the surgery, there was a wide range of responses, but on average the men were slightly dissatisfied. This was either because they were not happy with the result or because the pain, inconvenience (including time off work), and expense outweighed the cosmetic improvement. The men did not engage in more sex, experience more satisfaction with sex, or feel greater self-esteem after the surgery.

Klein stresses that the techniques of penis-enlargement surgery are improving and that results for men operated in the future may be better than for the men she studied. Even among her subjects, some were very satisfied with the procedure. These were usually the men who didn't have unrealistic expectations to begin with.

To my mind, if people want to improve on their natural endowments, more power to them. But they should be aware of the drawbacks, side effects, and limitations of the procedure. In particular, if it is a longer erect penis they are seeking, they may well be disappointed.

In addition, some of the men who want larger penises may have problems that could better be addressed through psychotherapy than through surgery. As I left the clinic, I wondered whether surgeons who perform these procedures have a conflict of responsibilities: on the one hand, to respect their patients' authority over their own bodies – but on the other, to find the real roots of their problems, whether in the penis or in the head. ▼

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of *The Sexual Brain*, *City of Friends* (with Elisabeth Nonas), and *Queer Science* (MIT Press, 1996), and the novel *Albrick's Gold* (Richard Kasak Books, 1997). He is also a co-founder of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. He can be reached care of the B.A.R. or at SLeVay@aol.com.

MEDIA WATCH

Domestic partnership and business: a good marriage

by Don Romesburg, GLAAD/SF media resource center manager

With the June 1 deadline for businesses who work with the city of San Francisco to comply with the new domestic partnership ordinance, the May 28 edition of the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the May 29 edition of *MSNBC Online* both looked at how the law is good for businesses and equal rights. The *Chronicle* story, headlined "Big Help for Small Firms: Large Insurers to Office Domestic Partner Coverage," noted that "thanks in large part to the domestic partner law due to take effect on Sunday," all five of the largest healthcare insurers in California now offer domestic partnership coverage to small businesses. Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Health Net, PacifiCare, and Kaiser Foundation "hold more than 75 percent of the market," it said, "and observers predicted that other insurers will follow suit." The article quotes Bill Corba, a vice president at Blue Shield of Northern California, saying, "I see this will become the industry standard in a very short time."

The MSNBC piece, entitled "Domestic-Partner Benefits: Good Business," notes that the San Francisco law "has become a model for the state." In it, West Hollywood City Council member Steve Martin says, "I think it's going to be common ten years from now." Addressing the concern that it will be excessively expensive for small businesses, the report says, "With 170 unmarried people on the payroll, only a handful of the city employees of West Hollywood took the offer of a domestic partner benefit package. The low percentage is similar among small and large businesses."

Please let the *San Francisco Chronicle* and MSNBC know that their clear-headed, objective reporting on this hot-button issue of workplace equality is appreciated.

Contact: William German, Editor, *San Francisco Chronicle*, 901 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103-2988, fax: 415.512.8196, e-mail: danr@sfgate.com; Mark Harrington, Vice President, MSNBC, 2200 Fletcher Avenue, Fort Lee, NJ 07024, fax: 201.583.5512, e-mail: opinion@msnbc.com.

Rolling Stone remembers Allen

Since gay poet, revolutionary and controversial American cultural icon Allen Ginsberg died April 5, many newspapers and magazines have done tributes to him, but few with the depth of feeling and breadth that *Rolling Stone* printed in its May 29 issue. In an eight-page article, writer Mikal Gilmore puts into historical, political, and personal perspective both Ginsberg's life and work, without shying away from his homosexuality or some of his more controversial acts. "Not since the 1977 death of Elvis Presley and the 1980 murder of John Lennon has a certain segment of popular culture had to come to terms with the realization of such an epochal ending. Allen Ginsberg not only made history but also lived through and embodied some of the most remarkable cultural mutations of the last half-century. ... Perhaps only Martin Luther King, Jr.'s brave and costly quest has a more genuinely liberating impact upon the realities of modern history, upon the freeing up of people and voices that much of established society wanted kept in the margins," Gilmore writes.

Still, he notes, "Ginsberg was also, of course, simply a man – at turns generous and competitive, self-aware yet self-aggrandizing, old in his wisdom, juvenile in his tastes and affections, and relentlessly promiscuous though deeply faithful." He writes of the poet's friendships and sexual affairs with the core of the Beat Generation, including Neal Cassidy, Jack Kerouac, William S. Burroughs, and his long-term partner Peter Orlovsky. Finally, unlike so many other figures of that era, until his death, "Ginsberg would remain an important artist and active force." In addition, *Rolling Stone* compiled tributes from a number of literary, Beat, and musical luminaries. With numerous photographs of Ginsberg from throughout his life, as well as images of many who were close to him, the entire tribute is powerful and honest, fully embracing Ginsberg's open and explicit sexual orientation and sexuality.

Please commend *Rolling Stone* for doing justice in the memory of a gay American cultural luminary.

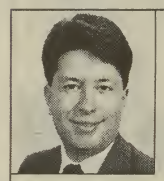
Contact: Jann S. Wenner, Editor and Publisher, *Rolling Stone*, 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10014-0298, fax: 212.767.8214, e-mail: rollingstone@echonyc.com.

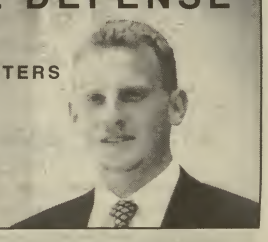
Anti-gay Dr. Laura goes on homophobic warpath

In a May 25 column appearing in newspapers all over the country, Dr. Laura Schlessinger calls gay men and lesbians "afflicted," calls being gay a "biological faux pas," and denounces lesbian and gay parented families as inferior to co-gendered, heterosexual parented ones. "With respect to gender identity," she writes, "heterosexuality is the functional norm," while she sees homosexuality as "an error in proper brain development. Acceptance of [homosexuality] as a state of being comparable to heterosexuality is not appropriate." She then tries to paint herself as tolerant: "A significant bulk of the critical letters I get at my radio program have to do with my apparent 'tolerance' of homosexuals- that I talk to gays and lesbians about the same moral, ethical and life issues as I do with heterosexuals when I should be condemning them. Even for me, it is too great, bizarre and regrettable a leap to go from compassion and tolerance for an individual who is 'afflicted with homosexuality' to declaring that nuclear, heterosexual families have no importance or advantage over any other form of family. To even suggest that this state of being is equivalent morally or practically to heterosexuality is taking an advocacy to the degree of being destructive to children's development- as well as to the very existence and continuity of a coherent society."

Contact: Dr. Laura Schlessinger, New York Times Syndication Sales Corp., 122 E. 42nd St., New York, NY 10168. ▼


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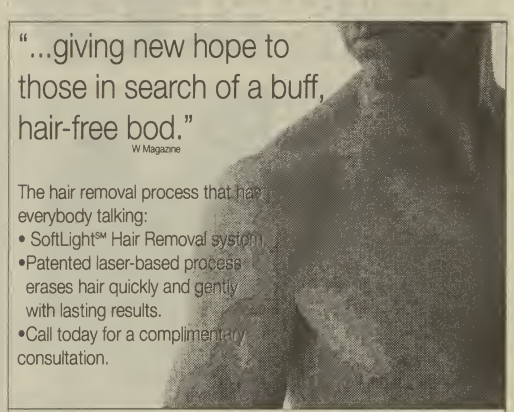

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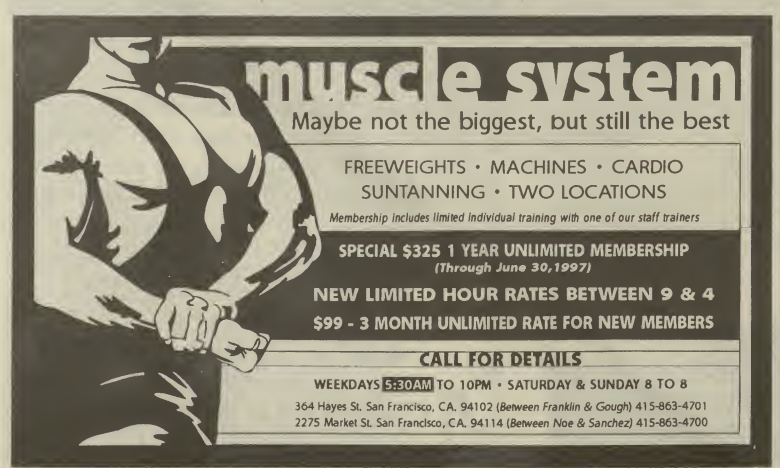
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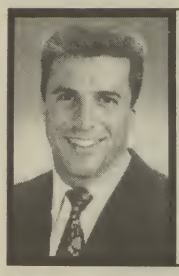
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CUSP discusses HRC, Hernandez meeting over bathhouses

by Liz Highleyman

The San Francisco group Community United for Sexual Privacy (CUSP) held its most recent meeting Wednesday, May 28. At the meeting, CUSP member Jonathan Klein expressed a "profound sense of relief" over a recent vote by the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Commission (HRC) to recommend the Department of Public Health (DPH) abandon its regulations prohibiting private spaces in sex clubs and bathhouses. However, members acknowledged that the full commission may be less likely to vote in their favor at the HRC's June 12 meeting *[see sidebar, this page]*; the HRC voted to oppose bathhouse closure in 1984. According to Klein, the debate at the May 20 advisory committee meeting showed that the DPH was "now taking this seriously," and they were "marshaling their troops" in support of its sex club policy.

The group also discussed a meeting held May 22 between DPH director Dr. Sandra Hernandez, Health Commissioner Roma Guy, and CUSP members Klein, Race Bannon, and Richard Carrazza. According to Carrazza, Hernandez "did most of the talking." Despite her belief that private, unmonitored spaces contribute to unsafe sex, Hernandez expressed her willingness to undertake a study of comparative HIV seroconversion rates in clubs that have private spaces versus only open spaces, and to sponsor a community forum on the sex club/bathhouse issue. CUSP believes that there is already enough evidence to support a change in policy, and that the community has already "spoken loud and clear."

A "profound sense of relief" at the CUSP meeting.

Bannon reported that Hernandez "for the first time gave an indication" that the DPH's policy was "not etched in stone," noting that public health policy is always subject to change based on new information. While it was "clear that both Dr. Hernandez and Roma Guy do not agree with CUSP's position," Bannon observed, "for the first time we got the impression that someone at the DPH was at least listening in good faith. We got the impression that Dr. Hernandez would like to come to some sort of agreement on this issue, but that appears to be unlikely in the near future." Bannon stressed that "public pressure would still continue in many forms."

Klein emphasized that CUSP's position on the issue is not about civil liberties taking priority over public health, but rather that allowing private space is actually "good health policy." Hernandez and Guy met with the CUSP representatives for an hour and a half, 30 minutes longer than scheduled.

Gay/lesbian split?

Discussion ensued at Wednesday's meeting about the wisdom of bringing the sex club issue before the city as a whole. Klein asserted that Hernandez was "doing us a favor by keeping [the issue] within the [gay] community." Reid Condit disagreed, stating that in order to change the policy, "we need to challenge anti-bathhouse sentiment citywide. ...The city believes that bathhouses equal death because they've been brainwashed to believe it." Noting that the discussion at the HRC advisory committee meeting tended to be skewed along gender lines – although some of the most vocal supporters of the current DPH regulations are men, and some of the strongest opponents are women – Condit hoped that the issue would not become a "gay/lesbian split."

CUSP members also discussed plans for future actions, including letters and activities for the Pride celebration at the end of the month.

The next meeting of CUSP will be held Wednesday, June 11th at 7:30 p.m. at the Power Exchange Main Station, located at 74 Otis Street. ▼

HRC to vote on sex clubs

The Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Commission (HRC) voted at its May 20 meeting to adopt a resolution calling on the Department of Public Health (DPH) to reconsider regulations prohibiting private spaces in sex clubs and bathhouses. On Thursday, June 12, the resolution will be brought before the full commission. DPH representatives are expected to present testimony, and there will be time for public comment. Decisions of the HRC are not legally binding on the DPH.

The meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. at the HRC offices, located on the 8th floor of 25 Van Ness. ▼

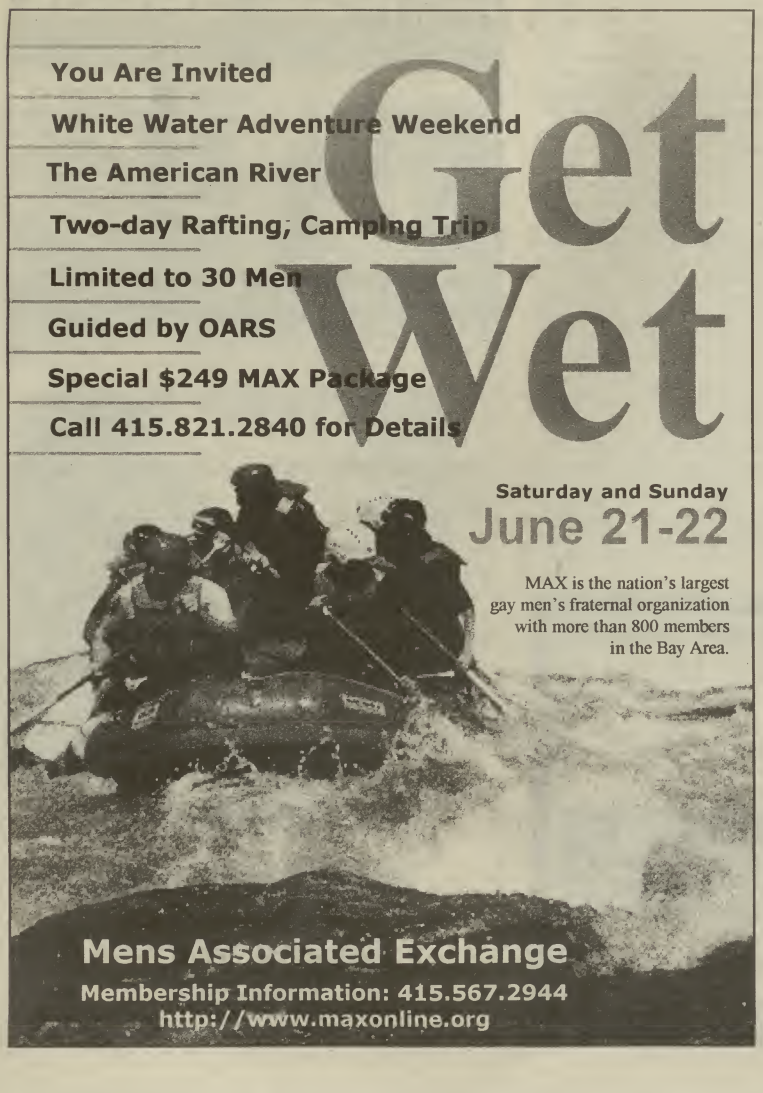
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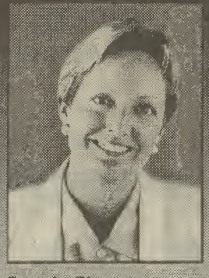
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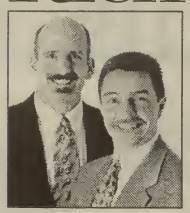
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Ground broken for new AIDS housing complex in East Bay

by Cynthia Laird

Ground was broken Friday, May 31 for the Bay Bridge Apartments in Emeryville, which will provide affordable housing for six people who are physically disabled with HIV/AIDS. The project is the fifth in Resources for Community Development's (RCD) "East Bay AIDS Housing Initiative," and will add to the scarce supply of AIDS housing in Alameda County.

Construction is scheduled to be completed in just five months on the $950,000 project, RCD's Alison Kirk told the *B.A.R.*

Local political leaders were on hand to pitch the ceremonial shovels last Friday. Speakers included Nora Davis, Emeryville's mayor; Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson; and Janet Browder, director of multi-family housing at Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

RCD has already demolished the former building on the site, a blighted single-story commercial structure that had been partially destroyed by fire. In its place, RCD will construct six fully accessible studio apartments surrounding a central courtyard, landscaped with trellis work, a variety of evergreen trees, and flowering plants and vines.

Each unit will contain approximately 450 square feet of living space, including individual kitchens, bathrooms, sleeping alcoves, and semi-private patios. The complex will also have a shared community kitchenette, fully-equipped laundry room, on-site supportive services, and property management office, Kirk said.

The Bay Bridge Apartments project is funded through loans from the Emeryville Redevelopment Agency, HUD's Section 811 program, and the Alameda County Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA). Grants have also been provided by Citibank Federal Savings Bank, and Sybase, Inc.

Once completed, on-site supportive services will be provided to residents by a network of local agencies that have experience in working with people living with HIV/AIDS. Agencies are expected to include Catholic Charities of the East Bay, the Center for AIDS Services, AIDS Project of the East Bay, Visiting Nurses Association and Hospice of Northern California, and Project Open Hand.

RCD has already completed two projects in its AIDS housing initiative; two others are under construction in Hayward and Berkeley. When finished, the seven projects will more than double the supply of affordable and supportive AIDS housing in the East Bay.

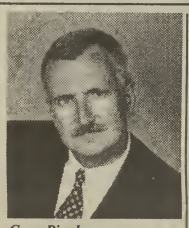
RCD is a nonprofit housing development corporation dedicated to creating and preserving affordable housing for people who have few options. Serving the East Bay since 1984, RCD's projects assist very low-income and homeless individuals, people living with HIV/AIDS, and families and special needs groups, including survivors of domestic violence. ▼



Courtesy of Resources for Community Development

Helping hands (l to r): RCD's Jack Gardner, Keith Carson, Nora Davis, Janet Browder and Emeryville Councilmember Dick Kassis.

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New refinements for HIV prevention proposal

PEP for some oral sex exposures okayed

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco's planned post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) program will be available to those who have had an exposure to HIV through oral sex with ejaculation, the University of California San Francisco's Dr. Michelle Roland announced at the PEP Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting Wednesday, May 28. At the previous CAB meeting, community members and investigators debated the oral sex issue at length; a federal grant now awaiting review does not call for its inclusion, but that could change.

PEP will probably be available here this fall. The program will go forward regardless of whether the grant is approved, AIDS Office Director Dr. Mitch Katz reiterated in a recent interview. It's being developed by investigators from the city's Department of Public Health (DPH) and UCSF, who are working with the CAB to get input.

Since PEP is a new concept for treating sexual exposure to HIV, the proposed program is undergoing constant refinement by Katz's office, UCSF researchers, and the CAB members. For several years, PEP has been the standard of care for treating healthcare workers who have been exposed to HIV through a needle stick or other accident. San Francisco will be the first city in the country to study PEP in sexual exposure cases.

The underlying premise of PEP for sexual exposure is that seroconversion may be prevented by beginning treatment with HIV drugs within 72 hours after an exposure. The two drugs most likely to be used are AZT and 3TC, Katz has said. AZT is what healthcare workers receive, and a recent case-control study indicated HIV infection decreased by 79 percent.

Many investigators have been cautious in discussing PEP; Katz in particular has consistently talked about the risks associated with it. Those include the concern that people may behave unsafely if they believe they can gain protection with PEP after sex; the toxicity of the drugs; and the possibility that PEP could speed up the emergence of antiretroviral resistance.

PEP can't begin here until the Food and Drug Administration gives its approval for the drugs to be used, since they will be prescribed to people who have not tested positive for HIV. The approval is expected this summer, Katz said.

Raucous meeting

Last week's CAB meeting was punctuated with outbursts from about five ACT UP/San Francisco members. Often, they did not wait to be recognized before speaking, and they frequently interrupted other speakers. Primarily, they emphasized their belief that AZT is a "toxin" that the city shouldn't promote.

At times it was difficult for other CAB members to participate in the meeting, and as a result, Katz summoned the police. One officer arrived midway through the evening, but no one was removed from the meeting. Katz told the *B.A.R.* he hopes the next CAB meeting will be more successful.

"We are looking at a variety of approaches," Katz said about the possibility that increased security may be on hand next time.

He said comments from everyone must be acknowledged, and agrees that drugs such as AZT "certainly do have toxicity."

But, he said, "The question is, can we structure the next meeting to better allow facilitation?" He added that CAB members need to respect the views of others, and adhere to basic ground rules, such as waiting to be called upon before speaking.

ACT UP/San Francisco's Michael Bellefountaine said the group did not "hijack" the meeting, although he did admit to speaking out of turn.

"I'm not used to Robert's Rules of Order, I'm used to the consensus style," Bellefountaine told the *B.A.R.* "Our questions were ignored."

He was upset after the police officer appeared, and accused Katz of intimidation. Katz was unflappable; he said police were summoned much earlier in the evening.

ACT UP/San Francisco is not affiliated with ACT UP/Golden Gate.

Lots of counseling

The PEP program will utilize counseling, and lots of it, for many reasons. Dr. Thomas Coates, director of UCSF's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies and the school's AIDS Research Institute, stressed counseling will be an "integral part of PEP."

Part of the reason for that approach is to make sure people know the risks of initiating treatment, which would probably last for 28 days. Investigators and community members also want people who think they've had a risky sexual exposure, but who may have actually experienced a substantially less risky incident, to be acutely aware of that difference.

"The protocol in the proposal allows for a lot of time, eight counseling sessions over one year," Coates said.

Counselors will undergo comprehensive training, including role-playing, and ongoing evaluation by supervisors, he explained, adding CAB members would be kept informed and be involved in developing the training manual. ▼

The next PEP community advisory board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, at 5:30 p.m. at the AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, third floor conference room.

Consensus Meeting presents new SF HIV/AIDS figure: 2.1%

by Liz Highleyman

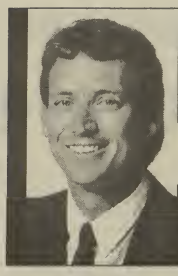
The 1997 HIV Prevalence and Incidence Consensus Meeting on May 12 brought together 33 researchers, healthcare professionals, and other experts to determine the best possible estimates of the number of existing and new cases of HIV infection in the city. While AIDS is a reportable disease in California, HIV infection is not.

Representatives from the city's Department of Public Health AIDS Office and Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Office, Community Substance Abuse Services, SF General Hospital, the University of California at San Francisco and Berkeley, the HIV Care Council and HIV Prevention Planning Council, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and several local community-based organizations participated in the conference.

Dr. Willi McFarland of the AIDS Office released an executive summary of the conference the following week. He emphasized that the summary is preliminary, and that more work needs to be done before a final report can be released.

According to the summary, the number of people with HIV in the city is estimated to be 15,000, or 2.1% of the population. The last consensus conference was held in 1991. The new figures reveal that the estimated number of people with HIV is substantially lower than the previous estimate. This decline, which crossed all transmission categories, was attributed to a combination of more accurate information and decreased rates of new infection. The projected incidence, or number of new cases per year, is 500, down from the previous incidence estimate of 900 cases per year.

The majority of HIV infections in the city are still among gay and bisexual men, accounting for 88% of existing cases and a projected 67% of new cases in the next year. The second highest percentage is among injection drug users, who account for 8.7% of existing cases and a projected 24% of new cases in the next year. Heterosexual men and women account for 3% of exiting infection and a projected 9% of new infections. San Francisco differs from several other cities in that the epidemic continues to most heavily affect gay and bisexual men; in other major urban centers, especially in the Northeast and South, the epidemic has shifted more dramatically toward injection drugs users and heterosexual women and men. ▼



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SF's Youth Empowerment Conference:

Youths take over the Civic Auditorium

by Erin Burke

Last Saturday, May 31st, over one thousand youths from all over San Francisco gathered in the Civic Auditorium to celebrate and promote youth empowerment. The conference, entirely run and lead by people under the age of 24, featured peer-led organizations ranging from Bay Area Young Positives (BAY+), a group of "young people living with HIV supporting young people with HIV," to PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays), to Workin' It (which focuses on "youth initiated projects"). A remarkable success after last year's "Children and Youth Summit" – which young people walked out on because they didn't feel there was enough youth involvement – most youths stayed the entire eight-hour day and came back for the after-party.

In his brief five-minute speech (which was all the time the leaders of the conference permitted him), Mayor Willie Brown supported the SF Youth Commission's success and the unprecedented nature of such a project. "This is the first time the city has ever supported such an effort," he said with pride at his own involvement in being part of the process. "I want to watch you, I want to listen to you, I want to work with you, and I want to learn from you."

The conference was composed primarily of two workshop sessions and a resource fair. Two workshops of particular interest were those given by BAY+ and HIFY (Health Initiatives for Youth).

BAY+ did an improv performance that educated the attendees about what it means to be young and HIV-positive. When the group asked the audience, composed mostly of middle and early high school students of varying ethnicities, the first words that came to mind when hearing the word "AIDS," the overwhelming response was "gay" and "drugs." The group then performed a skit with audience participation about various people finding out they had HIV. In the skits, all of the characters were straight, although when questioned later by the audience, all except one performer described themselves as gay, bi, or lesbian. When asked after the show why there were no gay couples, one troupe member told the *Bay Area Reporter* that because so many in the audience "thought HIV was just a gay person's disease, we wanted them to realize everyone is vulnerable.

"AIDS doesn't know your sexual orientation."

The show did seem to bring that realization home to many members of the audience, or at least to open their eyes to the possibility of infection more than statistics ever could. At least two actors said they were living with the HIV virus. "You either fold up or become a better person when you find out you have HIV," said one man. "I joined this organization because I want to help others not make the same mistakes I made, and also to offer support for those already infected."

HIFY's afternoon session, which unfortunately did not take place because of a lack of audience participation, would have featured "personal testimonies and presentations from key youth leaders in the arena of HIV and young woman's health issues."

HIFY's self-described mission statement is to "improve the health and well-being of all young people." The speakers from the conference were drawn on from the group's HIV+ Youth Speaker's Bureau, who give personal testimonies about their battle with HIV. Not only is the sharing of their story beneficial to the audience, but it is therapeutic to the speakers themselves as well. Touted as "the only one of its kind in the country," HIFY says its "audiences consistently report that presenters have had a powerful impact on them," and that they have provoked many to get tested and "practice safer behaviors" as well.

Although the two groups are independent from each other, they do collaborate a great deal. The primary difference between them is that BAY+ is entirely run and operated by youth, and HIFY has a mix of youth and adults. HIFY believes that it is not the age of the person that matters, as much as their motivation and the ideas they present. Both organizations are always open to new members, and have a variety of publications to which they encourage youths to submit.

The resource fair had a significant number of gay and lesbian resources, such as AQUA (Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center), an organization serving people ages 16-23 and providing community HIV/AIDS services as well as support groups for its members; Queer Youth Training Collaborative, which offers paid job training and support (including resume and cover letter writing and interviewing skills) to San Francisco residents 13 to 17 years of age; LYRIC (Lavender Youth Recreation & Information Center), with an evening talk line and numerous support groups and activities; and many more.

In summary, the presence of queer support groups and organizations was significant not only in number, but in visibility. Overall, the conference was a success in drawing together San Francisco's diverse population and exposing youth to the many opportunities available to them. ▼

To contact BAY+, call (415) 861-8202. To contact HIFY, call (415) 487-5777. For Queer Youth Training Collaborative, call (415) 357-1307. For LYRIC, call (415) 703-6150.

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Gay Prom '97 is next Sat.

by Cynthia Laird

A nine-foot waterfall will be there. Orchids and other plants will complete the tropical setting next Saturday, June 14 when the Lambda Youth Project hosts the third annual Gay Prom in Hayward. This year's theme is "In the Spirit of Freedom," and hundreds of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender young people are expected to attend the unique event.

Ken Athey, with Lambda Youth Project, said he is still looking for someone to coordinate food and beverages for the event. It is probably the single biggest need right now, he said.

This year, queer youth are expected to come from as far away as Chico in northern California, and Los Angeles, Athey told the *B.A.R.* The prom has historically attracted hundreds of young people and was started in order to provide a safe, alcohol- and drug-free place where same-sex couples can relax and enjoy themselves.

Lambda offers counseling and support for teens and young adults to reduce feelings of isolation and increase self-respect in a caring atmosphere. The prom is a part of that effort, Athey said.

Entertainment will be provided by DJ Page Hodel, who will be spinning the tunes; the popular personality has been at every gay prom. Appearing for a second time will be Olga Texidor, and Cheer San Francisco will also be there to rally the crowd, Athey said.

Tickets for Gay Prom '97 are available at LYRIC in San Francisco, the Pacific Center in Berkeley, the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Center in San Jose, and at Project Eden and Out of the Closet, both in Hayward. ▼

Youth ages 14-25 are welcome. Tickets are $20 in advance, or $25 at the door. The prom begins at 7 p.m. at Centennial Hall, 22292 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward. (510) 247-8214.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Gay Penguins shut out from Amsterdam

by Jim Provenzano

The number of reasons for the rejection of the application to Gay Games V sent by the San Francisco Penguins, a Bay Area gay and lesbian ice hockey team, has increased to four in a heated e-mail volley between Gay Games Amsterdam Committee members, SF Penguins team members, and the *Bay Area Reporter*. In a series of e-mails, representatives from Amsterdam have denied that they are enforcing gender quotas, despite the fact that that is part of the mission statement of Gay Games V.

Several men's teams that have not filled quotas to the satisfaction of Amsterdam organizers have been denied admission in the pre-registration for Gay Games V. Hardest hit locally is the San Francisco Penguins, which, according to a team representative, filled out their application, mailed it to the Amsterdam offices, and had it rejected. But why they were rejected is still unclear.

In a May 21 e-mail, Michael "Timberwoof" Roeder, who is a member, organizer, and goalie for the SF Penguins, stressed that he was speaking for himself, but offered these facts: "So far, I have heard four reasons why the San Francisco hockey team's application to the Gay Games was rejected. 1: We sent $350 for seven players instead of $300 for a team. 2: We did not have at least 40% women on our team. 3: All the men's hockey team slots were already filled. 4: Our form was not properly filled out."

Roeder expressed his dismay at what he sees as subterfuge and evasion of the truth, that his team is being discriminated against based on their sex. "Each of these reasons has come to me through a different channel: stated via telephone to our Gay Games coordinator; posted on the IGLHA mailing list; and e-mail replied from the Amsterdam folks to Jim Provenzano, a writer for the *Bay Area Reporter*. Each of these reasons contradicts the others. They're all bureaucratic. Two of them could have been solved weeks ago by a telephone call."

According to Paul van Yperen of Gay Games Amsterdam, "The reason for the pre-registration problems has nothing to do with the participation of women. The only reason for returning their pre-registration form is that the Penguins filled in their form incorrectly."



Hockey high jinks?

Not so, according to other sources. According to an e-mail Roeder received from Team San Francisco co-chair Lisa LeBreque, the reason the Penguins must wait until after August 1 to learn whether they will be admitted to compete at Gay Games is that "Amsterdam's goal is to achieve 40% female participation across the 30 sports.

"Historically," she continued, "it has been shown that women register later than men, so therefore, Amsterdam is limiting pre-registration to 60% men in each sport to allow women time to get their act together."

Thus the predominantly men's team is being forced to wait months to register. In the meantime, hotel rooms are being bought out by price-gouging travel groups in Europe and America, and teams from around the world, such as the Penguins, are being left in the dark about their registration status.

Obviously, this has hampered the enthusiasm of team members. The multiple excuses the Amsterdam group has used have almost drained Roeder of the desire to go. "I wonder if I should care which one is the real reason. As long as we're denied a spot in Amsterdam, there's not much hope of putting together a gay hockey team in San Francisco.

"I've talked to a number of hockey players in the Bay Area. They are excited about joining a gay hockey team ... until I tell them we don't have a spot in Amsterdam. I'm supposed to lie to them? As things stand now, we might as well put all of our plans on hold until after August."

In fact, the Penguins and other predominantly male teams may be kept "on hold" until January of 1998. According to an e-mail from Rachel Gaster of Gay Games Amsterdam, "in the event that the slots are not filled by women, the remaining slots will be opened to men on January 1, 1998." By that time, virtually all hotels will be booked.

Many other teams and individuals are also experiencing problems. LeBreque stressed that the Amsterdam group was doing its best to communicate with athletes and teams.

"Amsterdam's Call Center, as well their website and e-mail accounts, have been swamped with questions, inquiries, complaints, etc., each one as important and as valid as the next," LeBreque said in an e-mail response. "Many volunteers are spending long hours responding to each and every call, and I understand it may take several weeks to get a response, depending on how much research has to be done to thoroughly answer each question." ▼

The Penguins are still avidly seeking participants to fill their team roster; currently, the team practices weekly with three to seven members. Women and men interested in playing with them should call Karen at (510) 893-1109; Michael at (415) 285-4720; or John at (510) 527-2909. The Penguins meet for pickup hockey at the Oakland US Ice Arena Thursdays at 9:30 p.m. The cost is $10 per player. Check out the Penguins website at http://members.aol.com/SFPenguin.

Amsterdam releases estimated budget of Gay Games Amsterdam

Officials have announced that some events will be free to participants. The specifics of ticketing for paid events will be released in August. The total budget for Gay Games V is an estimated $6,671,000, according to Gay Games V offices in Amsterdam.

"On the revenue side, the total income is generated by 8 activities— registration participants: $1,462,000; ticket sales: $1,598,000; marketing revenue: $406,000; grants (city, govt., Europe): $1,100,000; donations: $526,000; funds: $263,000; sponsoring: $1,316,000," stated the Gay Games V office.

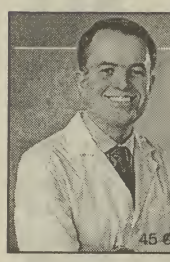
Gay Games representatives refused to release information on how the money is being spent, citing it as "confidential." They mentioned that as a nonprofit, they are not planning to make any profit, but they have set aside 7 percent for 'unforeseen' events. ▼

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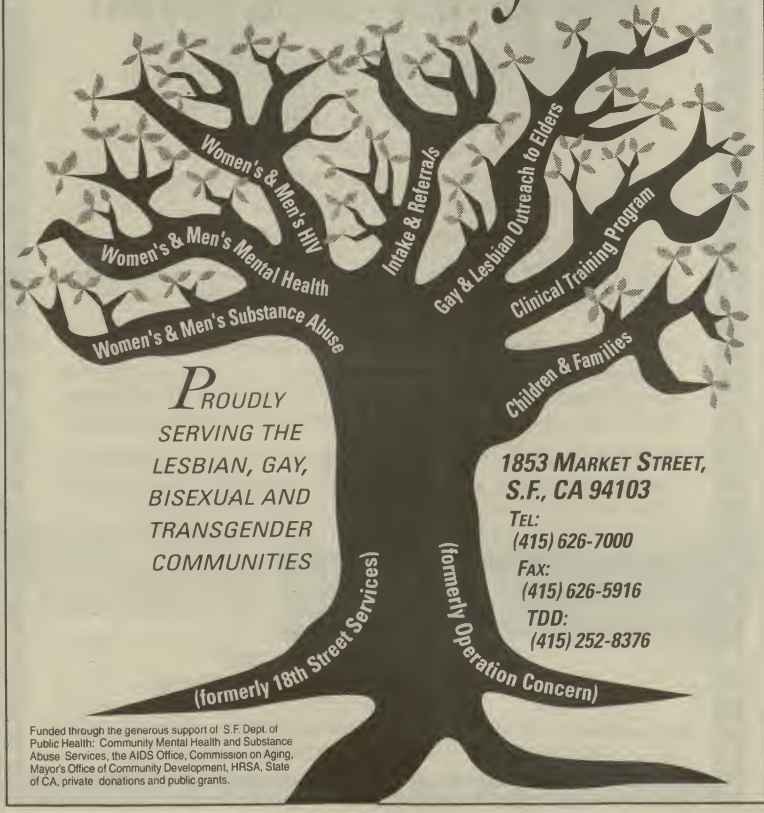
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Sonoma County supes reject parking for gay beach

by Lois Pearlman

A group of gay men in Sonoma County has vowed to continue the fight for access to a popular gay beach on the Russian River, after county supervisors on Tuesday, June 3 rejected a proposal that would have provided public parking in the area.

"I'm giving this to the grand jury on the basis that there's no compelling evidence to deny access," said the organizer of the group, Santa Rosa resident St. Clair Adams. "Their concern about 20 or 30 swimmers is out of proportion."

At issue is legal parking access to a small secluded "gay" beach, about one half-mile upstream from the Russian River's Wohler Bridge, as well as several other small beaches frequented by a variety of swimmers and boaters.

The parking proposal, put forward by west county supervisor Mike Reilly, would have provided about 30 parking spaces for summer beachgoers, in a lot built for fishermen, and currently open only between October 1 and May 15. There is no other public parking in the area, because the roads that lead to the beaches have been posted with no parking signs.

The parking lot is managed by Sonoma County Regional Parks, but the land on which it sits, as well as the beaches in question, and several miles of downstream beachfront, is owned by the Sonoma County Water Agency.

On this site the agency maintains five water collectors that supply Russian River water to nearly one half-million people in Sonoma and Marin counties. The water agency also has plans to construct several more water collectors in the area, one of them near the "gay" beach.

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors also serves as the board of the Sonoma County Water Agency.

The water agency and the parks department opposed the parking plan, saying that swimming in the vicinity of the water collectors would pollute the drinking water supply, and also pose liability problems if somebody were injured on the property. They reasoned that providing public parking would encourage "expanded use" of the beaches.

Crypto fears?

Supervisors were also presented with letters from the water districts that purchase the Russian River water, saying they were concerned that swimmers might introduce cryptosporidium or other potentially fatal parasites into their water supply.

In addition, a resident of the Wohler area, Meredith Dreisback, read a letter signed by 21 other neighbors who opposed the parking lot extension.

Proponents of the plan, which included several dozen gay men as well as others interested in beach access, countered the arguments by saying that, even with the parking lot open, the crowds would be smaller than they were when parking was allowed on the roadways. They also presented evidence there is no scientific proof that swimmers pollute the water supply.

Cryptosporidium outbreaks are generally caused by sewage spills, flooding, or run-off from livestock ranches, said Bob Rawson, a former sanitary engineer with the Sonoma County Water Agency.

"Most people infected with intestinal parasites are more interested in sitting on the john than swimming in the river," he commented.

Several of the gay men who

next page ▶

Hernandez

◀ page 1

nandez was at the Board of Supervisors meeting and commented favorably on Mayor Willie Brown's $6.3 million in his proposed 1997-98 budget for substance abuse treatment on demand, one of Hernandez's top priorities since last fall. She offered no hint she'd soon be leaving the Department of Public Health.

Brown called her departure "a significant loss."

Hernandez said only that "after much soul-searching, I have decided that the time has come for me to resign... ." She said that she has spent her entire professional career in the DPH, both as a physician and administrator. Prior to becoming health director, she ran the AIDS Office.

Dr. Edward Chow, health commission president, said work will begin immediately in consultation with the mayor's office, to "commence with the search for a new director." No specifics were provided.

Public health advocate

San Francisco gay and lesbian leaders contacted by the *B.A.R.* praised Hernandez; she was lauded both as an effective administrator and a compassionate doctor.

Throughout her tenure as director, Hernandez has maintained an active clinical AIDS practice at San Francisco General Hospital and is an assistant clinical professor at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine.

Dr. Mitch Katz, AIDS Office director, called her departure "devastating," and said she's been at the forefront of AIDS prevention and health services. When the Ryan White planning council was formed several years ago, Hernandez worked to establish the group and served as a co-chair.

Even those who didn't always agree with her, and she has had many critics in the gay community, acknowledged her contribution to the city.

"While I have not always agreed with Dr. Hernandez, she's been a stellar director and really good for the gay and lesbian community," said Supervisor Tom Ammiano.

Hernandez and another Latina lesbian, Supervisor Susan Leal, have each contributed to the increased visibility of lesbians of color in San Francisco and nationally, as both are known throughout the country.

"She was a very, very strong advocate for public health," Leal said. "We agreed most of the time, but even when we disagreed, I understood what her motivations were."

Supervisor Leslie Katz said, "I'm sorry to see her go. It's a loss for the city and certainly a gain for the San Francisco Foundation. I know she has her detractors, [but] the community owes her a great deal." ▼

Dom. partners clears Assembly

by Marghe Covino

In what is described as an "historic" bipartisan vote, on June 2nd the State Assembly passed a bill, authored by Carole Migden, D-SF, which will require disability and health insurers to provide the option of domestic partners benefits to their clients.

While arguing the benefits of the bill, AB 1059, Migden said the legislation would help not only gay couples, but senior citizens and heterosexual couples who choose to live together without getting married. Migden cited that more than 600 companies nationwide offer domestic partner coverage and said the option will give small businesses stability in keeping good employees.

"This bill will benefit real people, thousands of Californians in non-traditional families, including same-sex couples and opposite sex couples who live together in stable, long-term, committed relationships but are ineligible for traditional spousal benefits," Migden said.

Martha Knutzen, President of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, said, "What Assemblywoman Migden has done is a critical step toward helping companies offer benefits that until now they could not afford."

Steve Baldwin, Assemblymember from El Cajon, disputed the notion that the bill would help anyone except gay couples. "This bill is about the homosexual lifestyle. It's simply not the role of government to require insurers to offer benefits for someone's unmarried partner."

Apparently the Baldwin argument resonates in other Republican circles as well. Governor Pete Wilson's spokesperson Steve Tatum said the bill will be vetoed "if it reaches the Governor's desk." Tatum said, "The administration is opposed to the bill. It is an effort to indirectly equate domestic partnership to marriage." ▼

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HIV work bill passes

by Marghe Covino

A bill which would benefit all disabled persons on MediCal passed the Assembly on June 2 by a vote of 72-1, as neophyte lawmakers struggled through a mountain of legislation which, under legislative rules, must be acted upon by this Friday.

Assemblywoman Carole Migden's (D-SF) bill will continue health coverage for people with HIV/AIDS and other disabling diseases who want to return to work but will be unable to do so because of the prohibitive cost of their medications and healthcare.

The bill is expected to generate a substantial savings for the state as people leave state assistance programs and return to the workforce. Migden said, "Recent medical advances have produced miraculous new drug therapies which can dramatically improve the health of people living with HIV/AIDS, and many are able to return to work. Ironically, as their health improves, the costs of treatments skyrocket, and people are faced with having to choose between returning to work and retaining their coverage for life-saving drugs. This bill solves that problem.

"This measure will give people a sense of dignity by allowing them the opportunity to participate in the workforce while also saving the state money," Migden said. ▼

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Sheldon debates lesbian minister on Sacramento TV

by Marghe Covino

Declaring that the gay agenda is to "degenderize America," the Traditional Values Coalition's Lou Sheldon kicked off a debate on gay rights and domestic partners legislation at Sacramento's public TV station, KVIE, on Thursday, May 22.

When Jack Cavanaugh, the moderator, turned to MCC's Rev. Freeda Smith for her reaction to Sheldon's remark, he was told, "Let's get to the bottom line here: We're here to talk about justice, and there's no reason why taxpaying, loving, gay and lesbian people who are in committed relationships recognized by their church and by God should be paying taxes so that people like Reverend Sheldon and his wife can have benefits that we can't have."

Smith is a skilled preacher and was on a championship debating team in college, so none of Sheldon's typical ploys – digressing, misinformation, and outrageous statements – caused her to react or veer off the subject. People who gathered around the monitor in the Green Room were cheering Smith as she ticked off point after point which left Sheldon muttering to himself on occasion.

Smith alternately used a dominating tone to get Sheldon's attention, while saying, "Rev. Sheldon, Rev. Sheldon, I love you in the Lord – but…," then murmuring when Sheldon quoted a notably homophobic black minister, "God love him, God bless him."

Sheldon appeared distracted and annoyed in a post-debate interview, but told reporters that homosexuals are trying to redefine the family. He explained the "heterosexual ethic," which he said arises out of the "whole human anatomy, male and female," and defined homosexuality as a gender identity conflict. Of the family, he said, "There is a chemistry within a home, a literal chemistry: it's biological, physical, chemistry [sic], psychological, and societal, which affects the relationships. The father is in the home to take authority, provide leadership, and provide the definitive role of what is morally right and wrong."

Smith said of the debate, "It was important for me not to give him an inch. He didn't want to speak to the issue, and he didn't want to allow me to speak."

Preliminary reports from KVIE indicate that viewer comments regarding the issue of domestic partners were generally favorable. ▼

Sonoma County

◀ previous page

spoke described their love for the beach, and the lush meadows and forests that surround it. One of them, Monte Rio resident Bruce Campbell, showed the supervisors a video he had made of the area, which he said he had been visiting for 30 years.

Despite the testimony of proponents, all of the supervisors except Reilly rejected the plan, saying that it would be too costly to conduct the environmental studies required to prove that beach use is not a public safety hazard.

"I already think I know what the answer to some of these questions are, that it's expensive," said Santa Rosa area supervisor Tim Smith.

Following the vote, proponents of the parking lot proposal were disappointed with the outcome.

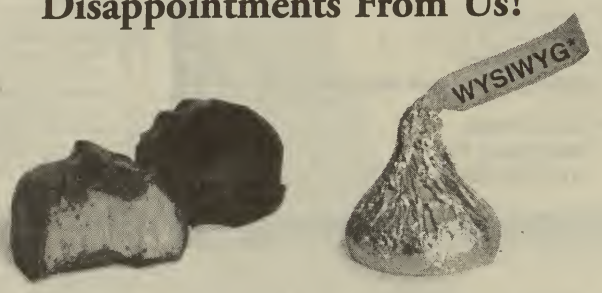
Pointing out that several other municipalities in the county get their water supply near public beaches, Campbell said he believed the decision was unfair.

"You can make the same arguments against every other public beach on the river," he said.

Adams suggested that one way to get a fair hearing from the water agency board would be to make the board a separate elected body.

"We should put an initiative on the ballot to make the board of the water agency an elected position separate from the board of supervisors," he said. ▼

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San Jose Pride growing despite controversy

by Vicky Kolakowski

Less than six months after the San Jose Pride Committee filed for bankruptcy and was the subject of a series of critical articles in a South Bay gay paper, including one headlined, "Pride festival may not happen," San Jose is ready to hold its annual gay pride celebration this Sunday, June 8.

The pride committee claims that the city of San Jose is predicting a 20 percent increase in attendance over last year's event, including a parade and pride festival.

One indication of the anticipated growth of this year's celebration is the official pride magazine. The 44-page magazine, with a glossy color cover and comprehensive resource guide, has set local records for size, distribution and advertisements. Advertising and the resulting revenue has more than doubled; 20,000 copies of the magazine are being distributed. Many of the ads were placed by downtown businesses that are not gay- or lesbian-focused, demonstrating the viability of this year's theme of "Equality Through Visibility."

Another sign of growth is the record number of booths for the festival. There will be over 50 booths at the festival, organizers said.

Part of the success of the magazine and booth rentals can be attributed to the committee's decision to hire a professional marketing firm, Piper's Vision, to handle advertisements and the magazine this year.

Bill Kiley, vice president of the committee, defended the decision, noting that the increased ad revenues more than covered the costs, and that Mark Gillard of Piper's Vision donated much of his time. "Mark put in a lot more of his own time than he originally anticipated," Kiley told the *B.A.R.*

Gillard confirmed that he donated much of his time to support the committee, and that he did so to honor "the spirit of so many people who have died, and the spirit of so many people who are still here. Pride is too big a thing to let personalities get in the way."

Resolution of problems

Gillard's comment was a reference to the conflict that the committee continues to face. Gillard and Kiley attribute the tension to personality conflicts in the local gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.

The committee has been struggling to overcome negative publicity resulting from a lawsuit over the loss of over $40,000 in radio equipment after the 1994 parade and festival, and with some problems with maintaining proper legal filings to maintain its corporate status. The bankruptcy petition did not stop the lawsuit by former committee member David Carranza, which is scheduled to go to trial later this month. The committee has since withdrawn the petition for bankruptcy, and has corrected the problems with back taxes and paperwork.

The committee's legal problems have been the subject of several articles in the South Bay newspaper *OutNOW!* The committee's response to the criticism has swung between appreciative and critical, often in the same paragraph.

Ted Sahl, committee president, responded to the newspaper's criticism in his letter in the magazine, stating, "The pride committee appreciates *OutNOW!*'s negative reporting. It gave us a much-needed opportunity and incentive to correct these past errors. Of course, the board wishes that *OutNOW!* acted more professionally.... *OutNOW!*'s articles have severely hampered the committee's ability in planning the 1997 event."

In addition to the committee's legal problems, *OutNOW!* has criticized the committee's composition. The committee has only four members, all white men, half of whom are straight, including Sahl. The paper also reported that scheduled public meetings are not held.

Kiley challenged these criticisms. He told the *B.A.R.* that the committee meets on the second Sunday of every month at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Center to get public input.

"We hold board meetings, and nobody from the public shows up," Kiley said. "We're not hiding anything. But we're a working board, and most of the work happens outside of meetings. There are only four of us, and there is so much work to do."

The level of work is one of the problems with recruiting new board members, Kiley claims. "We hold elections in September or October of each year," Kiley stated, "but most of them [the new board members], quite frankly, flake out."

Kiley noted that "you wind up doing things you never meant to do, like cleaning up trash. I guess I could be called the trash cleanup queen... no, czarina."

Trash of a different sort may also be a problem for recruiting new board members. Kiley acknowledges that the committee's legal problems are a major problem in recruiting board members. The negative publicity "results in a bad reputation, not only for the board but also for the individual board members," Kiley grumbled. Fear of being held personally responsible for the committee's debts is a powerful deterrent to potential board members.

"Yes, we would be happy to bring in more board members," Kiley added. "It's not that we haven't tried. But we're stuck in a position which isn't the 1997 pride board's fault. It's the inept handling by the 1994 board."

Both Kiley and Carranza were members of that committee.

Parade marches on

The parade's grand marshals are Pat and Pete Koopman, co-presidents of Peninsula PFLAG, and Paul Wysocki, one of the pioneers of the South Bay gay and lesbian community. The Koopmans were instrumental in founding the PFLAG chapter 10 years ago and have served for five years as co-presidents.

Wysocki has been a leader in the San Jose community since 1970, serving as a leader in a large number of civil rights and HIV/AIDS organizations, including as president of the board of Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BAYMEC), as chair of the Santa Clara Human Relations Commission, and as a member of the hate crimes task force that successfully lobbied for a countywide anti-hate crimes ordinance. He ran unsuccessfully as an openly gay candidate for city council in San Jose in 1990.

Volunteers are still needed for two-hour shifts on Sunday for a variety of tasks, including set-up, security and clean-up. Anyone wanting to volunteer for the parade should arrive between 8 and 9 a.m. at the parade starting point, or anytime during the day at the information booth in Guadalupe River Park. ▼

The parade starts at 10 a.m. at the corner of Market and St. John streets in downtown San Jose. Information: call the Pride Line at (408) 978-9181.

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Marin County gets its pride this Saturday

by Cynthia Laird

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Coalition of Marin welcomes everyone to start celebrating pride this Saturday, June 7 at the San Rafael Community Center. This year's theme is "One Community, Many Faces," the same as San Francisco and Sonoma County.

This year's event features a barbecue and dance party with DJ Lori Z.

Sponsors of this year's event include: Bay Area Career Women; the Lavender Pages; the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Association of College of Marin; the Marin AIDS Project; the Marin Business and Professional Association; *The Slant* and *We The People*; Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns; and the Triangle Alliance of Marin.

Tickets for the event cost $7.50 per person in advance, which includes a free drink ticket, or $10 at the door. The optional barbecue dinner is $5 per person. Dinner will be served until 8:30 p.m.

Proceeds from the event benefit the pride committee to make future activities possible. ▼

The community center is located at 618 B Street in San Rafael. Pride festivities take place from 6 to 11 p.m. For advance tickets, call (415) 457-1115, ext. 209. To volunteer for the event, call Peter Hansen at (415) 457-1115, ext. 235. For more information, call (415) 457-1115, ext. 228.

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'97 pride dates in California

Forthcoming gay pride dates have been announced throughout California.

In addition to San Francisco's two-day celebration Saturday and Sunday, June 28-29, other cities are celebrating gay pride throughout the summer and into fall. They include:

Marin County: June 7
Santa Barbara: June 7
San Jose: June 8
Arcata: June 8
Santa Rosa: June 14
Los Angeles: June 21-22
Riverside/San Bernardino: July 12
San Diego: July 25-27
Orange County: Aug. 16-17
Chico: September 13-14
Fresno: October 5
Claremont: October 11
Palm Springs: Nov. 8-9

-- Cynthia Laird

Possible Coors participation in Los Angeles Pride causes controversy

by Marghe Covino

A resolution co-sponsored in May by gay West Hollywood City Councilmember Steve Martin "acknowledges the efforts that the Coors Brewing Company has made in its policies and relations with the gay and lesbian community." In a recent press release, Martin quotes David Fisher of West Hollywood's Lesbian and Gay Advisory Council, who said that he felt Coors was being treated unfairly by people in the gay and lesbian community who continue the boycott which, he says, ended in 1987.

Fisher's reasons are that he has "realized" that Coors has implemented employment policies that go beyond what most other gay-friendly companies have done. The resolution comes immediately before the Los Angeles gay and lesbian pride celebration was scheduled to discuss Coors' participation as a sponsor of that event.

Sacramento-based Reverend Jerry Sloan told the *Bay Area Reporter* that based upon his research into the homophobic organizations the Coors family has founded and heavily funded, he is unequivocally against allowing Coors to "con the gay and lesbian community into believing that the leopard has changed its spots."

Sloan, who has studied the money trail and the makeup of the Coors Corporation, is amazed that people in leadership positions can look at the family holdings and separate the family from the corporation. "The Coors family owns all of the voting stock in the corporation. Any money derived from the sale of Coors products – including beer – goes directly into the family coffers which, in turn, are opened to every repressive, ultra-conservative, right-wing cause which is regressive and elitist enough warrant their funding.

"In fact," Sloan continued, "the Adolph Coors Foundation and the Castle Rock Foundation jointly own 732,413 shares of stock in the Adolph Coors Company – the holding company that owns Coors Brewing Company – and family members sit on their boards. Both of those foundations fund programs against gays. Both foundations also jointly own 24,137 shares of ACE Technologies, which is headed by Jeffrey Coors, who is Chair of the Free Congress Foundation – which is responsible for inventing the so-called "Gay Agenda."

"Looking at what Coors is doing to manipulate a few gay and lesbian employees – getting them to write letters and make phone calls to gay media to tout the wonders of the Coors company – hardly outweighs the climate of hatred and exclusion their money has inflicted on the rest of us," Sloan said. He pointed out that while the Coors Company has instituted progressive policies for diversity and domestic partners, "there is no reason for people like Fisher and Martin to become advocates for Coors, because much of Coors' deceptive behavior has been chronicled. Syndicated gay writer Bruce Mirken has written several well-researched articles about the Coors money and the activities it supports, such as The Castle Rock Foundation, and the Council for National Policy, and the yearly $250 million the company spends with Jeff Coors's corporation.

"Bruce has also written about the Coors efforts to donate large sums of money in the gay and lesbian community in order to gain a foothold for their marketing. I can't believe Martin and Fisher didn't know at least a part of this, and if they didn't, they should have researched the pros and cons before making this decision on behalf of the gay and lesbian community," Sloan said.

Coors makes a $10M 'Splash'

David Fisher, who was the moving force behind the West Hollywood Resolution, is a member of the board of directors of the Los Angeles community center and is also a board member of the Human Rights campaign. Fisher has already accepted a $10 million donation from Coors for an event called "Splash," which he put on at the center, but doesn't feel it compromises anything.

Fisher claims to have done extensive research on the Coors disclaimers regarding their homophobic and right-wing activities, and certainly has come up with different answers than Sloan.

"We can't dictate to family members how they spend their money," he told the *B.A.R.*, "and the company has absolutely nothing to do with any right-wing or homophobic activity. I've looked at the material, and they absolutely do not have anything to do with homophobic activity.

"That's all in the past. How long are they going to have to pay for what other family members did in the past?"

Fisher also stated that the very-much-alive Joseph Coors is dead, and therefore other family members should not be held accountable for his political activities.

He further claimed that if the community continues to boycott Coors, "then we need to look at Disney and some of the other companies like American Airlines; we should be fair and make sure we treat everyone the same." Fisher said he had discussed the city council resolution with a prominent Southern California publisher before submitting it, and had received his blessing.

The publisher told the *B.A.R.* he doesn't know Fisher.

The Coors agenda

Sloan told the *B.A.R.* that researcher Russ Bellant's book *The Coors Connection* lays out the ways the Coors family have implemented their agenda – and continue to do so. "It's beautifully and professionally researched and presumably available to Fisher. In my opinion, no other company has engaged in such focused, long-range planning against the gay and lesbian community. Joseph Coors and [Free Congress founder] Paul Weyrich set that train in motion over 25 years ago, and it's still roaring down the track aimed right at us.

"There is absolutely no way the Coors Company can atone for the pain and misery their homophobic agenda has inflicted upon our community. There's not enough money to make that go away. They own a piece of every gay murder, gay bashing, every Amendment 2 and Lon Mabon, Lou Sheldon and Phyllis Schlafley that grab a cheap headline at our expense. They have a piece of every Paul Cameron and Joseph Nicolosi that attempt to put out their false 'statistics' about gays and gay behaviors under the guise of 'science,'" Sloan said.

"Every time we buy a Coors product we are engaging in suicidal behavior – I can't stop people from doing it, but I sure as hell can make sure they know that what they're doing has a name.

"And it's either suicide or treachery," he said.

This week Sloan has been asked to attend a meeting with Coors officials, and another meeting about Coors was held Monday, June 2 at Christopher Street West , the producing organization of the Los Angeles parade. ▼

International gay pride

This year's "Europride" gay liberation celebration will be held in Paris from June 19-29. Although organizers expect it to be huge, the ten-day festival is already dwarfed by an unprecedented 100-day event now underway in Berlin, called "Goodbye to Berlin? 100 Jahre Schwulenbewegung" (or 100 Years of the Gay Movement).

That event began at Berlin's Akademie der Künste (Academy of Art) on May 17, and will run through August 17. Sources say the focus in future weeks will shift to gay liberation in Africa, a subject about which little information is widely known.

York, England, June 5
Würtzburg, Germany, June 13-15
Hamburg, Germany, June 13-22
Bielefeld, Germany, June 14
Bochum, Germany, June 14
Tijuana, Mexico, June 14
Mannheim, Germany, June 14-22
Edinburgh, Scotland, June 15-21
Oslo, Norway, June 15-22
Deventer, Netherlands, June 27-July 6
Vienna, Austria, June 28
Rome, Italy, June 28
Regensburg, Germany, June 28
Berlin, Germany, June 20-29
Paris, June 19-29 (Europride 1997)
London, England, July 5
Cologne, Germany, July 5-7
Munich, Germany, July 10-12
Zurich, Switzerland, July 18-19
Frankfurt, Germany, July 19-20
Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 1-10
Ensenada, Mexico, August 2-3
Brighton, England, August 9
Oulu, Finland, August 8-10
Nottingham, England, September 14
Mexicali, Mexico, September 20

For information about "100 Years of the Gay Movement," e-mail homo2000@adk.de or check out the website at http://www.adk.de7homo2000.

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Deadline for *all* obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Charles "Chuck" Buch



Charles "Chuck" Buch recently passed away in San Francisco after a brief illness. Born in Richmond, Va., he was the owner/operator of a successful restaurant. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy for two years.

Chuck resided in San Francisco for 30 years, where he managed an apartment building on Van Ness Avenue in which he resided. He worked at the Russian River's Bohemian Grove during the summer and was a bartender at Lottie's for three years.

Chuck's many friends are holding a gathering in his memory at the Wooden Horse (622 Polk St.) on Saturday, June 7, at 2 p.m. Burial services were private.

Dennis J. Davis
Sept. 1, 1949 – May 8, 1997

Dennis J. Davis, an internationally known master tailor, crossed over after



14 years of being HIV positive and one year of struggles.

Dennis came to San Francisco after serving in the Navy in the Mediterranean. He met and moved in with Bo Ayres in 1975, and began leather work with Nick Odemus at Phoebe's. When Nick opened the Trading Post, Dennis became head tailor.

Some years later, Dennis moved on to Mr. S Leather. After a long stint there, he opened his own business in his home, which flourished until December 1996, when he became too ill to work.

Dennis went from Veterans to General and finally Ralph K. Davies, a block from his home of 20 years. He is survived by his mother, Jenny Davis of Jackson, Mich.; brothers, Brian and John Davis; sister, Linda Oufley; his partner of 23 years, Bo Ayres; and his leather partner of 10 years, Michael Woulfe.

A service will be held on Sunday, June 15, noon-5 p.m., at 175 Henry Street.

Edward Finn
May 5, 1997

Edward Finn, 39, longtime resident of San Francisco and Provincetown, died peacefully on May 5 of testicular cancer at his home on the Cape. He was surrounded by his sister, Barbara; brother, Billy; and several close friends, including Angus Mc Caslin.

Ed was first diagnosed with cancer six years ago. The disease was in remission for four years due to his doctors in SF and Boston, as well as his unfailingly positive outlook, but resurfaced last summer.

Edward was one of those rare individuals who had a profound influence on everyone he met. He was a warm, generous, erudite man with an inimitable style. His sharp wit entertained both his friends and co-workers; that unique sense of humor was one of Ed's greatest gifts. Well-read, well-spoken and well-traveled, Ed had a lust for life that few could match. He will be missed and remembered by all of his many friends.

Gerald T. Gordon
1967 – 1997



Gerry's family was there for him with love and support throughout his illness until his very young goodbye. He died in the city he loved so much and is survived by his mother, Joan; brother, Michael, also of San Francisco; sisters, Arlene and Maureen; and his very close other brothers, Patrick, Donald, Denis, John and Eugene.

Gerry loved people, and they loved him back. He shared what he had with everyone. There are many friends and relatives who will find it hard not to have Gerry's positive energy around.

Dennis Henson
Dec. 2, 1950 – May 1, 1997



"We are sorry: the number you are trying to reach has been disconnected, and there is no new number at this time."

Dennis leaves behind him at least three families who love him and grieve his death: his family back on the East Coast, his family of colleagues and co-workers at Pac Bell (and AT&T) out here, and his family of friends and neighbors, collectors and non, gay and straight – and we are everywhere!

He's gone. What more can we say?

A memorial service is scheduled for mid-July. Please call Patrick for particulars at 415/861-6969.

Frank pushes for medical marijuana reform with Pelosi

by Bob Roehr

The Medical Use of Marijuana Act is the latest effort by Congressman Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) to achieve rational federal policy on that subject. It was introduced Wednesday, June 4 with the co-sponsorship of Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-California).

"What we need to do to get marijuana into the hands of the truly suffering is remove the federal controls on marijuana so the states can determine this issue for themselves," Frank said in a prepared statement. His bill would reclassify marijuana from a Schedule I to a Schedule II drug under narcotics regulations.

Frank is "hoping that people who say they are motivated by states' rights on a number of issues will be consistent and support my states' rights legislation in an area which provides a great deal of relief from suffering for a number of people."

Robert Raben, Frank's aide, said the bill would direct the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to provide marijuana for study. It differs from Frank's previous bill on the subject in that it would allow state law to regulate local use and cultivation.

Allen St. Pierre, spokesman for the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), worked closely with Frank in shaping the bill. He acknowledged that it was "heavily influenced" by the huge majorities that passed medical marijuana initiatives in California and Arizona, and by the political atmosphere on Capitol Hill "in this era of Republicans screaming for states' rights."

He called the odds of passage "extremely long" in this session of Congress, but hoped for fair hearings this year to further the process of education. St. Pierre also sees Frank's bill as a counter to a proposal by the Senators from Tobaccostan, North Carolina Republicans Jesse Helms and Lauch Faircloth, that seek "to mitigate or nullify" the California and Arizona election results. "Their bill seeks to imprison doctors," he said, "so at the very least Barney's bill acts as a countermeasure in terms of public discussion."

Meanwhile, the case for medical marijuana continues to gain ground. In February, the NIH held a Workshop on the Medical Utility of Marijuana. That panel of eight outside experts heard two days of testimony and unanimously concluded that marijuana "looks promising enough to recommend there should be some controlled studies." It recommended a handful of areas for research, including AIDS wasting, glaucoma, and the debilitating side effects that often accompany chemotherapy.

On May 14, research scientists documented the long-held belief that marijuana is safe. There is "no statistically significant association between marijuana smoking and death," concluded the study conducted by Kaiser Permanente. It appeared in the *American Journal of Public Health*. It examined medical records of more than 65,000 San Francisco Bay Area patients over a ten year period. The study was largely ignored by the media.

And the latest survey of American attitudes shows that 69 percent believe marijuana should be legalized for medical use. The number climbs to 77 percent "if research shows it effective," but turns to 75 percent in opposition "if research shows it ineffective." Most Americans believe the herb does have some medicinal benefit. The poll of 517 adults was released May 29 by ABC News and the Discovery Channel. ▼

2 July 1962



18 April 1997

Aaron Fitzgerald
IN MEMORIUM
A service will be held at the Zen Center, Page at Laguna on Sunday, the 8th of June, at 2:00 p.m.

HEALTH PERSPECTIVE

An interview with Lark Lands

With nutrition, what you don't know can definitely hurt you

by Matthew Sharp, ACT UP/ Golden Gate Writers Pool

The advent of the protease inhibitors and combination therapies for HIV have shown great promise for many who had little hope of survival. Many people, however, are experiencing difficulties with the therapies and cannot tolerate them at all. Ineffectiveness in treatments may be because of the difficulties in taking the drugs and/or inadequate absorption. Now there is more information about maintaining health and improving effectiveness of the new drugs with aggressive nutritional support.

The Healing Alternatives Foundation (the AIDS Buyers' Club) will be sponsoring a free half-day seminar on Saturday, June 14 at the Metropolitan Community Church in the Castro. Expert speakers Lark Lands, Michael Mooney, and Carl Grunfeld will bring their knowledge and expertise on nutrition, anabolics, and endocrinology to the event.

Lands is a health educator, consultant, and author of *Positively Well*: Living with HIV as a Chronic, Manageable, Survivable Disease*, which will be available later this year. Her knowledge and expertise on a total, aggressive approach to survival with HIV is well-known and respected. She has written for *POZ* magazine and is a frequent keynote speaker at AIDS conferences worldwide.

I had an opportunity to interview her about what she hopes to achieve at the seminar:

Matthew Sharp: What are the most important areas you'd like to cover in the upcoming seminar?

Lark Lands: How to eliminate symptoms of HIV and opportunistic infections, how to increase the absorption and decrease the side effects in the many drugs people with HIV are taking. How to lessen the chance for development of resistance. How to lessen the risk of infections and cancers. How to slow disease progression even more than you can with drugs alone. I'll also address prevention of body damage and downhill slide that can steal your muscles and ultimately lead to wasting.

It almost sounds too good to be true, but the facts are that there is a great deal we can do to accomplish all of these with the appropriate use of nutrients – which is what I'll be talking about – as well as hormonal therapies, exercise, and other approaches discussed by Mr. Mooney and Mr. Grunfeld.

With all the enthusiasm for the new antiretroviral combination therapies, there isn't much talk about ways to make them work better with nutrients. What's the most important aspect of nutrition that people should know about?

The bottom line is simple. Regardless of the particular drug you are using, one of the most important things you can do to improve your chances of benefiting from them is to improve your body's capacity to absorb and process and transport them. And the way you do this is with nutrients.

The first step is improving absorption. The combined effects of HIV and, in many people, other infections, along with nutrient deficiencies that are omnipresent with this disease, have created intestinal damage in many people. The result is malabsorption, which can greatly diminish how well a drug is taken up. With malabsorption, you won't get the full dose of the drugs you're swallowing, and the effect will be the same as taking a dose that's too low. They'll work less well, allowing greater viral activity and speedier development of resistance. Since some of these drugs are in forms that are difficult for the body to absorb anyway, worsening the situation with intestinal malabsorption is a very bad idea.

Nutrients can help to repair the intestines and boost the capacity for proper drug absorption. Unfortunately, for many reasons, the very nutrients that are needed for this may be missing in a majority of people living with HIV. So, supplementation with these nutrients – especially glutamine, zinc, and vitamin A – may be crucial for maintaining long-term drug effectiveness.

It makes sense that creating a better environment in the gastrointestinal tract would help the effectiveness of the drugs, but what about reducing side effects with nutrients?

Good nutrition and nutrient supplementation can help to maintain a body that is healthy enough to withstand the assault of drugs, to the greatest extent possible. The simple fact is that what could keep many people from using antiviral drugs long-term is the side effects they cause. By using good nutrition to reduce such problems, we can greatly increase the chances for long-term effective use of the drugs. We need to look at the specific effects of all the drugs someone is taking in order to design a program that contains the nutrients that can help the body to tolerate them.



With protease inhibitors, it's critical to maintain the health of the liver, and there are a number of nutrients and herbs – including alpha-lipoic acid, n-acetyl cysteine, glutamine, vitamin C, and silymarin – that can help with that. Ensuring an optimal supply of nutrients is a critical step for anyone taking antiretroviral drugs. I have lots of clients taking aggressive antiviral combos that just don't get the side effects that other people get.

How are people with HIV able to eliminate or reduce symptoms?

It's one of the most important things that we need to teach people. In my experience, most of the symptoms that can make people's lives just plain miserable can be eliminated with the right combinations of nutrients, along with hormone replacement, when necessary. Fatigue, loss of sex drive, loss of your senses of smell or taste, appetite loss, depression and anxiety, muscle cramps and many others.

This one's simple. In order to be able to continue to manage a difficult disease long-term, you need to feel good! We absolutely shouldn't let people's lives continue to be affected by symptoms that we can almost always eliminate.

I'll be looking forward to more of the specifics at the seminar. Now, what about using nutrients to help slow disease progression? Sometimes progression seems uncontrollable, no matter what you do.

Actually, many studies have now shown that nutrients can help slow disease progression. With some nutrients, the effects may be dramatic. In separate studies, people with deficiencies of either selenium or B-12 were shown to progress twice as quickly compared to those without deficiencies. We absolutely need to keep people's nutrients at optimal levels.

It makes since that an integrated approach can prevent or reverse wasting and help people maintain lean body mass. Do you think we have the components to such an approach?

Absolutely. We know that the majority of people who die from AIDS actually die from wasting. Preventing it – or reversing it where it's already present – with nutrients, hormone therapies, cytokine moderation, and exercise is a must: not only to ultimately prevent death, but also to help people maintain their strong healthy bodies and look better, feel better, and function better throughout their lives.

With many people unsure of their future in maintaining all of the problems associated with HIV, it seems clear that an aggressive, thorough approach to good nutrition, supplementation, and maintenance of lean body mass will lead to a better, healthier outlook. More and more research is proving that this is the case. ▼

SAG to give free protease inhibitors to actors

United Press International

The Screen Actors Guild has begun to provide protease inhibitor anti-AIDS drugs free of charge to members who have no health insurance.

The *Los Angeles Daily News* reported May 30 that SAG is the first union or corporation to provide the drugs, which block part of HIV's reproductive process, in "such a direct and simple manner."

SAG says it will offer the drugs only to those who have been members of the guild for five years. Recipients must provide a written diagnosis of their condition and a current prescription for the drugs from a licensed physician. The union based its program on recent studies that show most people who use the new drugs have shown "significantly reduced levels of the AIDS virus." ▼

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ViRx, Inc., 1375 Sutter St., Suite 407, San Francisco, CA 94109

Getting warmer

by Jim Provenzano

Gossip, gossip, gossip! Hunky Dean Cain is working out with *Friends* star Matt LeBlanc. Seems LeBlanc, who plays the dopey dago stereotype on the hit show, has become a chub. Cain, who shows off his bod in tights on *Lois and Clark*, has offered his services.

How nice for them. How nice for everyone.

Now, I'm not one to perpetuate unfounded rumors (much), but only recently, Dean Cain was supposed to be "workout buddies" with star quarterback and rumored-to-be-homosexual Troy Aikman. What gives? Did those nasty rumors force a break-up?

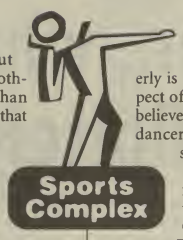
Matt, we all know, nearly put the Spartacus Gay Guide out of business a few years back when he sued for being put on the cover of the international gay guide, since he never signed a model release for that shoot. A warning for all, but not me.

"Matt's grateful for all Dean's help," says a 'set insider,' according to Jennifer Pearson in *The Star*, a tabloid that actually does not lie. From my old *OutWeek* days, I'll let you folks in on a secret. This article about Matt 'n' Dean is what's known as "a near outing."

Lucky little Matt. I hope his gluts are getting a good workout by Dean's spinus erectors.

I get inspired enough to go to the gym just thinking about the pair. I like to lay back on my bench press and imagine the baggy shorts of Dean Cain offering me inspiration as he spots me, his muscular thighs leading up to the magical wonder of his Super gonads. Ah, exercise is so healthy.

What I wonder is, do Dean and Matt shower together after their sweaty workouts? Do they sit together in the sauna? Do they towel off together? Do they comb their hair in the mirror while comparing their six packs?



This all springs to mind as I contemplate the advances in Gym-ology I have made with the help of numerous workout partners over the years. Some were boyfriends who wanted to sculpt me into a larger version of myself, thus to satisfy their own ends. Others had my best interests at heart. This has included a few heterosexuals.

Trainers at gyms can be very helpful. There's nothing more tedious than a workout you hate, but there's nothing more ridiculous than pumping iron in a way that doesn't work.

You've finally renewed that gym membership, or else got the bike you wanted, or made a decision to work out, run, jog, or even do a few pushups with a friend or roommate. Now what? We don't all have Dean Cain's pecs to inspire us.

I like to lay back on my bench press and imagine the baggy shorts of Dean Cain offering me inspiration as he spots me, his muscular thighs leading up to the magical wonder of his Supergonads. Exercise is healthy!

You're squeezing your workout between the office and dinner dates, or maybe grabbing a few curls before work, or at your lunch hour. As the months go by, though, and your inspiration for pectoral perfection wanes, you are going to start cutting your workouts short. It happens. But the worst thing you can do is cut down your warmups.

Warming up properly is the most essential aspect of exercise. If you don't believe a former professional dancer, then take it from some real jocks.

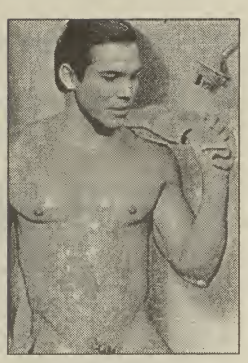
Here's some advice from Erv Hunt, Assistant Coach, U.S. Olympic Track and Field Team, in an old issue of *Men's Health*.

"In order to get the most out of your exercise program, you need to balance the stresses in your life. If you're having a tough week at work, for example, it's best to keep your workouts light. Don't skip workouts, just don't go all out. Do two sets instead of three, run with a slower partner, or work on your own form – anything to keep the blood flowing."

Bobby Douglas, former head coach of the U.S. Olympic Freestyle Wrestling Team, recommends stretching for at least fifteen minutes before any workout. I concur. "It never fails to amaze me how some people think they can jump into a workout without warming up," he says. "This is the surest road to injury.

Stretching also gives you time to forget about the day's worries, sift through them, and really indulge in the pleasant pain of working out. You are, essentially, "working out" the toxins in your body. You are ripping away the tension of sitting at a desk or digging up trees or whatever you do for a living. If you're a slacker, working out shifts you into movement mode, and will motivate you toward a more full healthy day.

This is why I highly recommend acquiring a workout partner. It passes the time better, gives you an amusing competitive edge to inspire you through the tedium, and should your workout partner be the likes of Dean Cain, provides ample inspiration come shower time. ▼



Dean Cain's all wet.

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Gay Men's Chorus to give cabaret show this Saturday

by Rene Astudillo

The Ballroom at the International Center on 50 Oak Street will be transformed into an elaborate cabaret lounge this Saturday, June 7, starting at 8 p.m., when the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus (SFGMC) presents its second offering for its 19th season. "Come to the Cabaret, Ol' Chum" will feature some of the world's greatest cabaret songs, as performed by soloists and small ensembles from the chorus.

Artistic director Stan Hill says that the "superb songsters will not only take the audience on a nostalgic journey, but will also act as the special hosts for the evening, serving wine and other beverages in grand style."

Previous cabaret shows presented by SFGMC at the Plush Room of the York Hotel and at the Great American Music Hall have been received with great enthusiasm by audiences.

SFGMC's first offering of the season, "ExtrABBAganza," was a big success, and songs from the concert were recently recorded at the Skywalker Ranch for release later in the summer. The chorus is also currently preparing for its next big concert, "Gershwin: A Rhapsody for Two," scheduled for July 12 and 13 at the Masonic Auditorium. This summer concert will also feature the New York City Gay Men's Chorus.

"Imagine if you can …over 350 male voices singing and swaying in splendid harmony," Hill says.

Preparations are underway to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the chorus, which will begin with a concert tour of Australia to coincide with Mardi Gras. ▼

For more information about the cabaret show, or other chorus performances, call the chorus office at (415) 863-4472.

United

◀ *page* **1**

"United is in a unique position, because when they negotiated with the city in what we thought was good faith, they didn't raise any issues that are in the lawsuit," Katz said.

Ammiano, who last week expressed his anger with the nation's largest airline, was equally candid this week. "This is the first step in a total boycott. We take this very seriously and are really outraged at the decision of United."

The proposed law, if adopted, states, "Whereas, United Airlines misrepresented its position with the city … in order to obtain a lease … whereas, the city does not want city employees flying on an airline that can not be trusted … therefore, be it resolved that the city … establish as city policy for all offices, agencies, and departments, that when booking air travel arrangements, that United Airlines be chosen only when no other airline is available."

In a related matter, the Harvey Milk Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Democratic Club again held a demonstration outside United's Geary Street ticket office last Saturday. Jeff Sheehy, club president, has been relentless in calling for the gay community to take its collective air travel dollars elsewhere. ▼

HEALTH RESOURCES

COMMUNITY HEALTH LISTINGS

Send health resource listings to:
Roberta Friedman
Community Health
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

ACT UP/SF
Does not accept drug company donations, committed to direct action. Contact: 1388 Haight, #218, SF 94117. 522-2907.

Acupuncture
The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

AIDS Benefits Counselors
Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Bereavement Group
For those who have lost their partner to AIDS. Thursdays, 6-7:30pm. Registration and info: 750-6800 x21680.

AIDS Community Research Consortium
Conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia CARE Unit
At St. Mary's Medical Center seeks volunteers to visit patients with HIV-related cognitive impairments. Call Stephan Ouellette, MSW, 750-4976.

AIDS Emergency Fund
Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project
Support groups for caregivers, friends & lovers of those with HIV/AIDS; women only, and mixed groups; free. Info: Mike, 502-6101.

AIDS/HIV Nightline
Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel
Assists persons w/HIV on legal problems, incl. wills, powers of attorney, benefits, more. Free or reduced fee. 291-5454.

AIDS Memorial Grove
Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS Project of the East Bay
HIV education & prevention programs, case management, emotional & practical support for people in Alameda Co. 651 20th St., Oakland. (510) 834-8181.

AIDS-Related Vision Loss Support Group
Meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 294 or 215.

AIDS Support Group
2+ years since diagnosis. No charge, fees paid by Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Resource Group. Thursdays, 1pm. Call Gail Winston for intake: 552-7517.

AIDS Treatment Education Network
Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strategies. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project
Offers family counseling, support groups and events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members. 436-9000.

ARIS
AIDS resources, information and services of Santa Clara county, drop-in support group meetings. 408-293-ARIS.

Asians & Pacific Islanders with HIV
Weekly support group, activities, retreats, treatment info. 575-3939 x336, API Wellness Center.

Baker Places
Provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bay Positives
Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Baylands Family Circle
Non-profit group of families headed by gay, lesbian and bisexual partners, meets monthly for social. Call Tom, 858-2468.

Bereavement Groups
For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Boy + Boy
Actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 431-2ACT xBOY.

Brothers Network
Support services for the gay, bisexual and transgender African-American community. 973 Market, Suite #650. Call for groups and schedule: 356-8140.

Buddhist AIDS Project
Provides info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

Cannabis Club
Allowed by court order to cultivate marijuana for medicine. Needed: old grow lights, fans, etc. 1444 Market. 621-3986.

Catholic Charities
Residential and direct HIV services include Guerrero House, Peter Claver Community, more. 814 Mission. 281-1200.

Center for Special Problems
Groups for people with HIV: drop-in for women, women's therapy group, co-ed drop-in and psycho educational group. 1700 Jackson. Call for info: 292-1500.

Chemically Sensitive & HIV
Support group forming for those allergic to perfumes and chemicals. 922-1348.

Clinica Esperanza
The HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Coming out support group for women
Meets Weds., 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market. All women questioning their sexuality welcome. Info: Lynne, 626-7000.

Coming out support group for men
Meets Weds., 6-7:30pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market St. Men of all ages welcome. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, Ph.D. Info: 626-7000.

Community United Against Violence
Begins training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500.

Counseling Services for Drinking Drivers
Groups for gay men who are court- or DMV-mandated to attend a multiple offender program. Chemical Awareness & Treatment Services: 241-1187.

Crystal Meth Anonymous
Meetings every: Wed., 8pm at 18th St. Services Mtg. Place (15th & Market); Sat., 9pm, and Sun., 6pm at 529 Clayton. Hotline: 267-5933.

Diabetics
Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type I and Type II diabetics in SF and the Bay Area. Info: (510) 865-2933.

Dolores Street Comm. Services
Seeks volunteers to help homeless in shelters. Contact David Rodriguez, 282-6209.

Drug Detox Program
Outpatient, medical drug detox, HIV acute care, counseling and education, free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

Eureka Acupuncture & Yoga Center
Offers yoga, massage, low cost acupuncture. 301 Eureka. 648-2215.

FABRIC
A support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/ x504.

Filipino Task Force on AIDS
Provides prevention, education and direct care services to Filipinos and others affected by HIV/AIDS. 1540 Market, Suite 325. Info: 703-9880.

Galeemas
Service organization supporting gay and lesbian employees of Pacific Bell. Membership info: call 747-9880.

Gay Dads
Gather to talk about your kids, lovers, ex's, etc. Joel Wechsler, MFCC. Alternative Family Project. 436-9000.

Gay/Lesbian Christian Scientists
Sharing support, insight, metaphysical science. Meets 2nd Monday of month. Info: Craig, 281-0636.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service
Seeks gay-sensitive law students as volunteer law clerks, one 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS office, Oakland. Info: 621-3900.

Gay and Lesbian Tennis Federation
Offers activities for players of all abilities, membership mtgs. monthly. Info: Donna at 282-2453 or e-mail dmckinsf@aol.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic
Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Gay Young Spirit
A new spiritual/social group for gay men in their 20s & 30s, meets alternate Tues., 7:15pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

G40+ Club
A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997.

Glide-Goodlett HIV/AIDS Project
Free, confidential HIV antibody testing, Wed. 12-4, 5-8pm. Case management, support groups, AIDS prevention and education. 330 Ellis, Suite 518. 567-2273.

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox
Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. 529 Clayton. Hector, 565-1909.

Healing Alternatives Foundation
Maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products, open Tues.-Sat. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

HIV Advocacy Network
Grassroots organizing project of SF AIDS Foundation: phone/fax tree action alerts, government lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. 487-3034.

HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf
Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV- men, men with AIDS, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. 1853 Market St.

HIV Drop-In Groups
Co-ed for people with HIV, Wed., 8pm. Women with HIV, Tues., 10am. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. 292-1543.

HIV Negative Gay Men's Support Group
In the South Bay, meets second and fourth Wed. of each month, 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. Info: Pat Duffy, 408-293-2747.

HIV Negative Support Group
For gay and bisexual men offered by AIDS Health Project; free drop-in, time-limited and ongoing support groups. Info: 476-3902.

HIV Nutrition Discussion/Support Group
Ongoing monthly meetings at city clinics, call for info: CARE Program Nutritionists, 554-9121.

HIV Positive Drop-in Group
Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

HIV Positive Youth Group
18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

HIV Testing
Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1rst Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

Immune Enhancement Project
Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program
(LYFE) Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian/ gay/ bisexual/ transgender youth. 565-7681.

Lesbian/Gay Christian Scientists
Meets 2nd Monday of each month for healing, insight and support. Info: 281-0636. or (800) 280-6653.

LesBian Social Group
For lesbians and bisexual women in Tri-Cities/So. Alameda Co. Thurs., 7pm at The Edge, 39160 State, Fremont. 790-2887.

Lesbian Support Groups
On mental health issues: peer counseling, support and referrals for SF residents. Call Connie, 552-0788.

Linea de Ambiente
Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi Latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM). 243-9534.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center
Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women by women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC's After School
Drop-in for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth, 18 and under. Daily, 3-6pm, M-F. 123 Collingwood. 703-6150.

Marin Co. STD/HIV Clinics
STD testing, treatment; HIV anonymous testing, treatment. Call 499-7804.

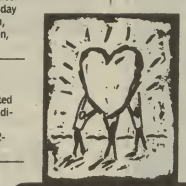
MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group
Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

MCC Community Forum
"OK, I've decided to go back to work or change my career" forum for people w/HIV. Mon., June 9, 7pm, free. MCC, 150 Eureka. 865-2744.

Meditation Sessions
For caregivers, people with HIV, significant others, free. Tues., Thurs., Fri. at 10:15am. Hartford St. Zen Center, 57 Hartford. 863-2507.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault
Operates sexual assault hotline for men, Mon.-Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

MWM
A rap group for gay/bi Asian Pacific Islander men and their partners. Wed. nights, 6:30pm. Asian AIDS Project, 785 Market, Suite 420. 227-0946.



Multiple Loss Bereavement Group
For those experiencing multiple losses of friends or loved ones to AIDS. Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm. Registration and info: 750-6800 x21680.

National Association for Visually Handicapped
Helps people with partial eyesight by supplying visual aids, a free service for SF residents who are HIV+ and losing eyesight. Call for appt.: 221-3201.

New Leaf
Provides substance abuse, mental health, HIV and senior services for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Info/intake: 626-7000.

Paradigm
Models for Enhancing Life Near Death, serves the terminally Ill, free 10-week support group in SF. Call for info: 522-9192.

The Positive Center
Free weekly workshops in acupuncture, nutrition, more for Marin CO. residents w/HIV. 535 San Anselmo Ave., San Anselmo. 456-8065.

Positive Gay Humanists
Internat'l organization to end discrimination & violence, meets Tues. at 7:30pm. Info: 285-0606.

Positive Living for Us
Free weekend seminar for recently-tested HIV+. Info: Alfredo, 356-8129.

Positive Resource
Provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Project HOPE
Offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Open Hand
Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

Protease Inhibitor Support Group
Forming to explore complex issues of new HIV treatment protocols. No fee, weekly, ongoing, preregistration required. Hospice by the Bay. Info: Mike, 626-5900.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida
Provides peer counseling, legal assistance, workshops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

Psychic Horizons
Free introductory meditation class Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. 2240 Geary Blvd. 346-7906.

PWAs Undergoing Infusion
Support group for men, free. Tues. afternoons. Call Carol or Jim at 552-2022.

Q Action
Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 431-2ACT.

Qi Gong for Health
$1 per class. Mon., Wed., 5:30pm. 50 Oak St., 3rd fl. 255-0265.

Quan Yin Healing Arts Center
Acupuncture, Chinese herbal therapies, massage for those with HIV, Yoga and Chi Gong classes. Call for schedule. 1748 Market. 861-4964.

Radical Women
Business mtg, 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

Sadhana Brothers
Gay men's Hindu/Yogic fellowship, meets monthly for chanting, meditation, informal discussion. Call Ed, 647-4388.

San Francisco Gay & Lesbian Immigration
And Asylum Rights Task Force meets first Thurs. of every month, 7pm, 870 Market St., Rm. 1213. Offers support groups for gay immigrants and their lovers, friends. Shannon, 392-6257.

San Mateo County AIDS Program
Provides prevention, health care, services and advocacy. Volunteer Resources Coordinator: 573-2488. Information: 573-2588.

SCA
Sexual Compulsive Anonymous meets every Mon. at 8pm, 2128 15th St. 864-7230.

STD Check-ups
Free testing site given by City Clinic, 2nd Thurs. of each month, 8:30-10:30pm. Blow Buddies, 933 Harrison. 863-4323.

St. Francis Senior Center
Invites seniors to weekly gatherings, Wed. 10am-2pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church. 621-2635.

Tambayan
Support/social group for queer pinoys and their friends. Every Thurs., 7pm at Filipino Task Force on AIDS, 1540 Market St., Suite 325. 703-9880.

Transcendental Meditation Center
Has scholarships for low income people with HIV. Call Paul Brown at 931-1621.

Transgender Support Group
Multiracial rap group, every first Monday of month. 6:30pm. Call Adela Holyday, Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, 864-7278.

Transitions Support Group
8-week group for those benefiting from new HIV cocktails. Begins in April, Thurs. at 6:30pm at AIDS Alliance, Concord. Pre-screening required, no fee. (510) 356-2437.

NOTICE

of Public Meetings and Opportunity to serve on the Mid Market Project Area Committee

Announcing Supplemental Elections for the Project Area Committee (PAC)

A Project Area Committee (PAC) has been formed to participate in planning the proposed Mid Market Redevelopment Project. Residential tenant members are sought to fill four new seats in a supplemental PAC election.

If you are a residential tenant within the proposed Mid Market Project Area, you are eligible to vote and/or be elected as a PAC member. The proposed Mid Market Project Area is generally bounded by Fourth Street, Minna Street between Fourth and Ninth Streets, Howard Street, Thirteenth Street, McCoppin Street, and a saw-toothed patterned boundary on the north side of Market Street between Laguna and Fourth Streets.

The PAC is a community elected citizen's advisory group of residential tenants, residential owner-occupants, business owners, property owners and representatives of community organizations who reside within, own property or a business within the Mid Market Redevelopment Project Area or who represent a community organization serving the area. The primary purpose of the PAC is to help develop the proposed redevelopment plan to advise the San Francisco redevelopment Agency and Board of Supervisors on matters relating to the adoption and implementation of the redevelopment plan.

The Mid Market PAC currently has 28 members in five categories: Residential Tenant (3 seats), Residential Owner-Occupant (2 seats), Business Owner/Commercial Tenant (5 seats), Business Owner/Property Owner (10 seats), and Community Organizations (8 seats). *The supplemental election will add four additional Residential Tenants (4 seats).*

If you have a disability that prevents you from voting in person and you desire to cast an absentee ballot, please call (415) 749-2507 as soon as possible.

The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency invites you to attend the following meetings in connection with the formation of the PAC. Language translations can be made available for all meetings: please call (415) 749-2480 to arrange for specific language translation.

MEETING	DATE, TIME, PLACE	PURPOSE
1. Public Information Meetings	**Monday, June 23, 1997** 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Goodwill Industries, 1500 Mission	* To discuss how to become a candidate and how to vote in the PAC election
Candidates Night	**Monday, June 30, 1997** 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Goodwill Industries, 1500 Mission	* To hear the statements of the candidates for election to the PAC
2. PAC Election Meeting	**Monday, July 7, 1997** 9 a.m. - 8p.m. Goodwill Industries, 1500 Mission	* To vote on election of PAC members

Your attendance at these meetings is important to you, your neighborhood, and the City. We hope to see you at the meetings. You can also declare your candidacy and register to vote at the SFRA, 770 Golden Gate Avenue, from June 9th - July 3rd, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Gail Goldman (415) 749-2480 or Martha Simmons, PAC Consultant, at (415) 822-0320.

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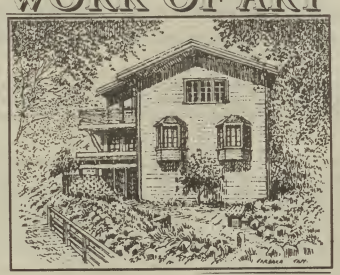
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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213861
The following person(s) are doing business as FIGHT BACK! VIDEO, 508A 14th St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Gregory Boyd, 508A 14th St, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Gregory Boyd. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 8, 1997.
May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213865
The following person(s) are doing business as SECURITY MAIL BOX, 1550 California St., Suite 6L, San Francisco, CA 94109: Richard F. Garcia, 914 Flordia "A", San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Richard F. Garcia. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 8, 1997.
May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213817
The following person(s) are doing business as ALL ABOUT YOU PHOTOGRAPHY, 300 Third St #318, San Francisco, CA 94107: Barry H. Simmons, 300 Third St #318, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 7, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Barry H. Simmons. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 7, 1997.
May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213795
The following person(s) are doing business as UNIFIED HEALTH SYSTEMS, 519 Castro St., Suite 7, San Francisco, CA 94114: James E. Freidman, 2301 Clay St., San Francisco, 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 1, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed James E. Freidman. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 6, 1997.
May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213854
The following person(s) are doing business as CARCORMATT TRUCKING, 1909 Sunnydale Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134: Denise Lather, 1909 Sunnydale Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 8, 1997. This business is conducted by an Individual. Signed Denise Lather. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 8, 1997.
May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214112
The following person(s) are doing business as STAT SYSTEMS, 88 Howard St. #2211, San Francisco, CA 94105: Stanley D. Becker, 88 Howard St. #2211, San Francisco, CA 94105. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 11, 1997. This business is conducted by an Individual. Signed Stanley Becker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 16, 1997.
May 22, 29, June 5, 12, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214285
The following person(s) are doing business as CHURCH STREET BED & BREAKFAST, 325 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114-1718: Michael John Jendritza, 325 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114-1718: John Warren Marshall, 325 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114-1718. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 1, 1997. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed Michael John Jerdritza. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 23, 1997.
May 29, June 5, 11, 19, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214237
The following person(s) are doing business as THE LIVING EARTH HEALTH STORE, 8139 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122: Teresa L.S. Wong: 406 Arguello Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 21, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Teresa Wong. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 21, 1997.
May 29, June 5, 11, 19, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214217
The following person(s) are doing business as SING SING CAL (WITH SPECTERS SOLUTION) PLAN B, 195 7th St. #403, San Francisco, CA 94103: Julius Norman Joseph (AKA Johnny Golightly), 195 7th St. #403, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 21, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Julius Norman Joseph. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 21, 1997.
May 29, June 5, 11, 19, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214181
The following person(s) are doing business as VITALINE, LIC, 5000 Fulton St. #2, San Francisco, CA 94121: Vitaline, Lic (CA), 5000 Fulton St. #2, San Francisco, CA 94121. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 20, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Igor Cheruas, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 20, 1997.
May 29, June 5, 11, 19, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214520
The following person(s) are doing business as AMERICANO, INC. 6 Joost Ave., San Francisco, CA 94131: Americano, Inc, (CA), 6 Joost Ave., San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 3, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Saleh M. Hassanein, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 3, 1997.
June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214421
The following person(s) are doing business as BAY AREA RELOCATION SERVICES, 1929 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Hartford Properties Inc., (CA), 1929 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 15, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Linda L. Servis, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 30, 1997.
June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214343
The following person(s) are doing business as VENTURE OUT, 575 Pierce St. #604, San Francisco, CA 94117: Robert Alan Driscoll, 575 Pierce St. #604, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Robert A. Driscoll. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 28, 1997.
June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214346
The following person(s) are doing business as DENISE'S NUTRITIONAL CONSULTING, 284 Noe St., San Francisco, CA 94114: Denise Buzbuzian, 1648 Grove St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 25, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Denise Buzbuzian. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 28, 1997.
June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214433
The following person(s) are doing business as HERBAL VITA HEALTH STORE, 1839 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122: Teresa Wong, 406 Arguello Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 30, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Teresa Wong. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 30, 1997.
June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214330
The following person(s) are doing business as BLACK DIAMOND ENTERPRISES, 176 San Carlos St., San Francisco 94110: Walkerlene Grenland, 176 San Carlos St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Walkerlene Grenland. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 27, 1997.
June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

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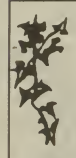
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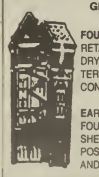
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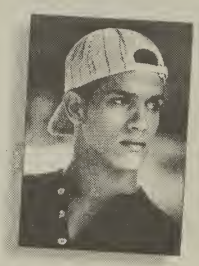
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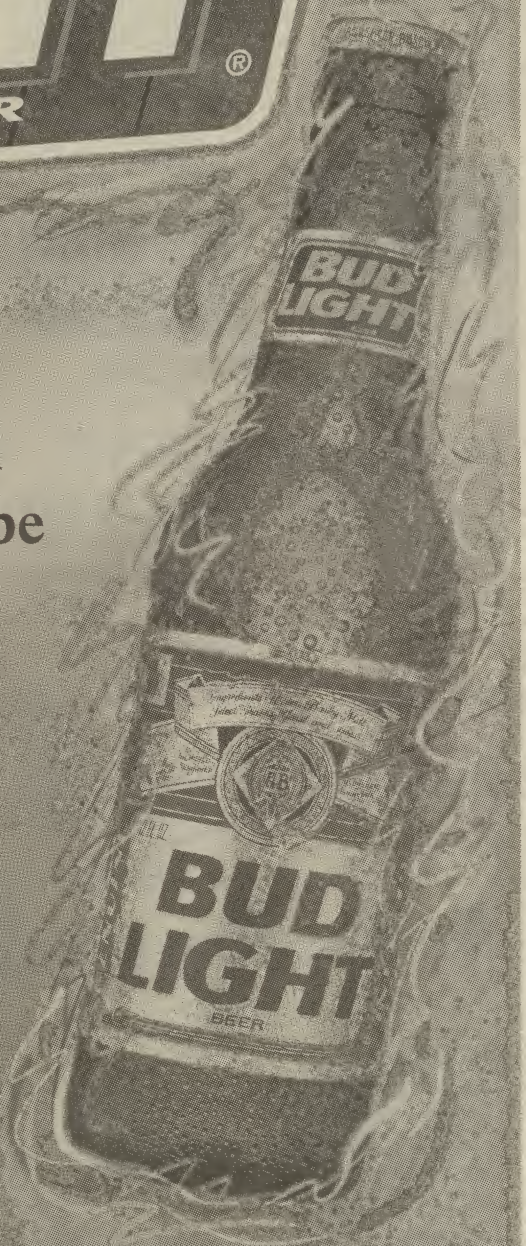
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Reviews of Michael Lowenthal's sexy *'Flesh and the Word 4' and Andrew Harvey's 'The Essential Gay Mystics.'* **page 43, 45**

Marlene Dietrich and *Luther Price make merry in unusual film pairing.* **page 37**



Royal Opera gets *royal roast in BBC doc 'The House.'* **page 40**



BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 27 • No. 23 • 5 June 1997

Written on the body

Peter Greenaway's *The Pillow Book* by Erin Blackwell

A Peter Greenaway film, like any massive bit of civic architecture, is a daunting proposition. Whether or not one likes it, one feels obliged to admire or at least respect it. Despite its blatant erudition and technological tour-de-forcing, *The Pillow Book*, the Brit's ninth feature, is visually stunning and pretty damn sexy for much of its two hours.

Although the film takes its title from the thousand-year-old Japanese classic by court lady Sei Shonagon, its spirit is aggressively alien to that sly text. Where the book is intimate, subtle, and subjective, the film is garish, programmatic, and encyclopedic. But it was never meant to be an adaptation. If anything, Shonagon is a selling point, and her text a launching-pad for the auteur's agenda: to manipulate text as a plastic element and to demonstrate the corrosive nature of culture.

In the same way, the storyline purports to follow a contemporary young woman as she becomes a writer, but she's only a nominal subject bridging the narrative gap between eruptions of heterosexual and homosexual male desire.

But first, the computer graphics. The film's opening half-hour is a dazzling display of digital wizardry enabling Greenaway to simultaneously project several overlapping films inside, alongside, or on top of one another. You've never seen anything like it—unless you've watched TV on your computer.

It's difficult to grasp and impossible to describe the silky smoothness with which screens open up inside the cinematic rectangle, change shape, fade out. The rectangle itself

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Vivian Wu in *The Pillow Book*

Designated talkers

Wallace Shawn's intellectual jawbreaker by Robert Julian

For sheer courage and audacity, screenwriter Wallace Shawn (*My Dinner With Andre*) and director David Hare both deserve Oscars. Their collaboration, *The Designated Mourner*, is a talky think-piece that will bore most filmgoers to tears — if it doesn't put them to sleep. However, for those able to stay awake, the film rewards with a stellar performance by Mike Nichols and enough intellectual fodder to keep after-dinner conversations running well past midnight.

It takes no little temerity to corral the film medium and reduce its potential to images of three actors, seated at a table, who simply talk about their past for 95 minutes. Yet this is exactly what David Hare does. Wallace Shawn's play, The Designated Mourner, which debuted at London's National Theater in 1996, is brought to the screen in a fashion that approximates the original stage production. Cast members Mike Nichols (Jack), Miranda Richardson (Judy), and David de Keyser (Howard) reprise their roles as members of an extended family doomed both by circumstances and their own cultural predilections.

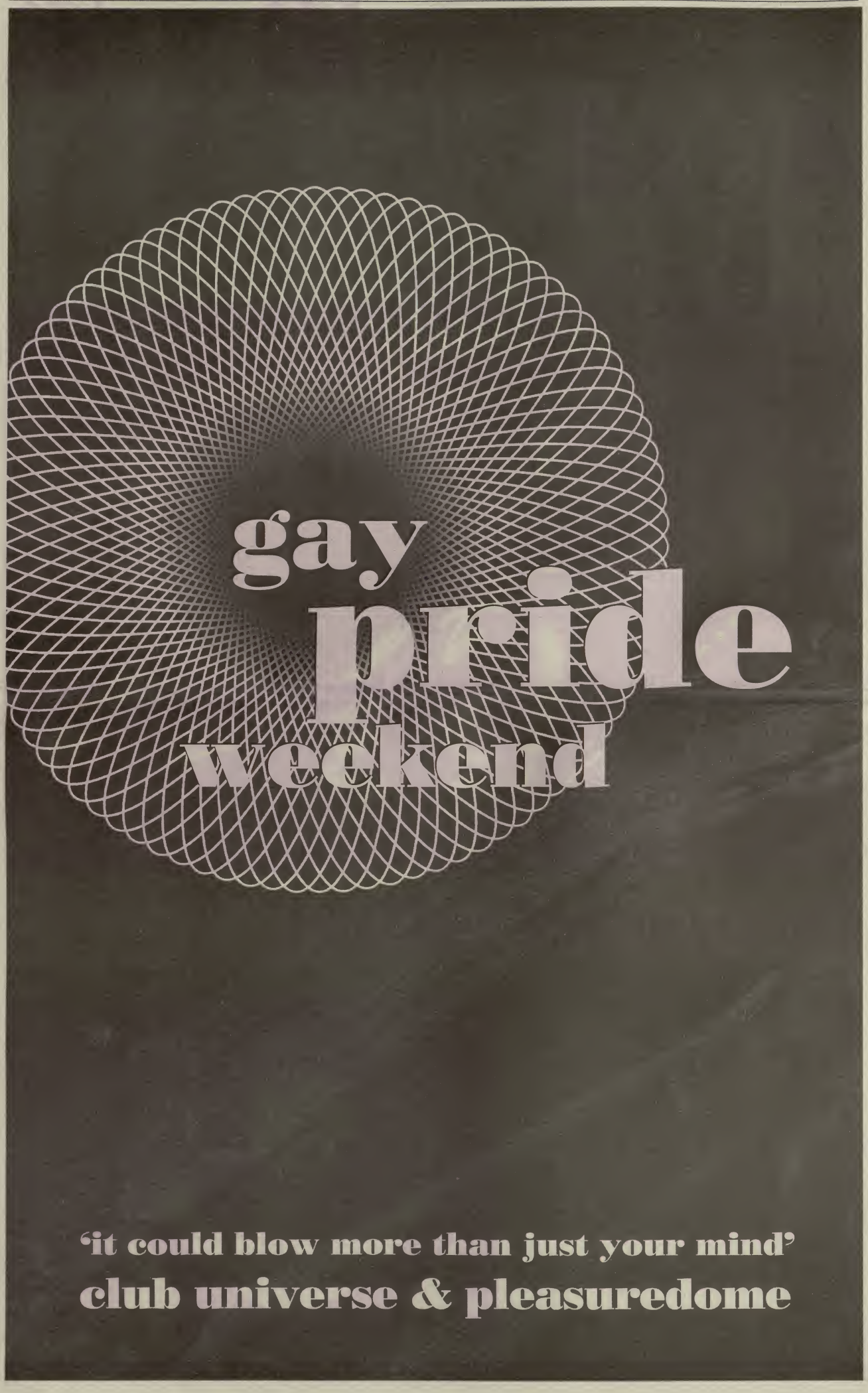
Jack and Judy are an unlikely married couple. Judy is a member of the cultural/political elite who marries below her station. Jack, a wannabe intellectual, simply does not have the background or the intelligence to become a fully participating member of Judy's world. He complains that he tries to read all the great writers, but he just doesn't understand them. By the end of the film, Jack finally stops reading, settling instead for porn magazines with pictures of naked ladies. In a dramatic moment, Jack confesses that he actually put a book of poetry in his bathtub and urinated and defecated on it. He elects to become, by his own joyful admission, a "lowbrow."

The early relationship between Jack and Judy is strained by Judy's allegiance to her father, Howard, a famous poet. The family tradition of being in-

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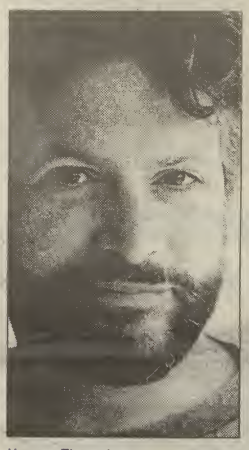
Miranda Richardson in *The Designated Mourner*


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OUT THERE

by Chris Culwell, Pithy Galore, and Otter Outrage

Psychedelic era leftover **Mike Myers** is riding so high on the success of *Austin Powers: Man of Mystery* that his phone is reportedly ringing off the hook day and night with movie offers. Myers, however, is rumored to be disgusted with most of the swill being sent his way by the studios (hard to believe, considering the severely limited vehicle with which the actor is now riding to notoriety). But one script has apparently caught the fancy of the periodontally-challenged actor, **Mark Christopher's** *Studio 54*, about the notorious Manhattan *bôite de nuit* of the late '70s made famous by **Andy Warhol, Truman Capote, Rudolf Nureyev,** and other dead celebs. Myers has apparently signed on to play the role of also-stiff **Steve Rubell**, Studio 54's drug-addled, closeted creator. Sounds like perfect casting to us. Mark Christopher is the talented queer writer/director behind *The Dead Boys Club* and *Alkali, Iowa.*



Harvey Fierstein

Does extremism hurt our cause?

Television editors were thrown into overdrive on the May 20 edition of ABC's late-night hit *Politically Incorrect* when throaty überqueen **Harvey Fierstein** told fellow panelist and poltroon-in-training **Ron Reagan**, "Fuck you and fuck your father" (former prez **Ronald Reagan**). The topics of discussion were the potential court-martial of Air Force pilot and defendant **Kelly Flinn** and the question, "Do extremists hurt their own causes?" Eventually the conversation got around to the Reagan administration's neglect of the AIDS crisis in the '80s. According to **Ted Casablanca**'s online gossip mill "The Awful Truth," Fierstein politely explained that he feels Ronald Reagan was to blame for countless AIDS deaths because he "refused to even mention the word AIDS" during his first three years in office. Missy Reagan responded that those who have died of AIDS deserved it, and that they "gave it to themselves." Reagan then blathered something cryptic about it being "time for Fierstein and others to find God."

Variety's **Army Archered**, who only reported that the two had a confrontation, but failed to mention Reagan's ridiculous comments, wrote in the entertainment weekly that Reagan the Younger received an apology from ABC but that he now wants an apology from Fierstein in print.

Host **Bill Maher**, who presents himself to the public as some sort of counterculture Svengali, reportedly whined to Fierstein after the show that such tempests are a no-no on TV and that they "don't help your cause." Fierstein, always the contrarian, begged to differ.

Maher was nonplussed later on the same show when guest **Johnny Lydon**, former lead wailer of the Sex Pistols, called **Lynn Redgrave** a "bitch" while discussing politics in England and Ireland. Sources say a groveling Maher later walked Redgrave to her car.



Kimberly Wright / Ron Galella

Mike Myers is slated to play club promoter Steve Rubell in *Studio 54*.



Obfuscation

Little wonder why so many homosexuals love *The New Yorker*. While queer invisibility suffuses most media products, ironically even those generated by homosexuals, *The New Yorker* has become so gay-friendly, the magazine could easily bear the subtitle, *a queer chronicle*. For instance, a few weeks back, dance critic **Arlene Croce** penned a review of the new **Frederick Ashton** bio, *Secret Muses*, that actually touched on the choreographer's homosexuality (minor miracle considering the critic's life-long frostbite). Then, two weeks ago, ennui queen **Gore Vidal** essentially outed **Clare Boothe Luce**; and doubtless few locals missed **Thom Gunn**'s poem "Front Bar of the Lone Star" in the same issue. But the journal's biggest lavender putsch was **Brendan Gill's** review last week of **Graham McCann**'s new bio on actor **Cary Grant** (*Cary Grant: A Class Apart*). In the piece, Gill takes McCann to task — along with most other Grant biographers — for his "gingerliness" with respect to Grant's sexual disposition. McCann apparently fails to reveal as *bonafide* homosexual liaisons the actor's relationships with **Randolph Scott**, with whom Grant shared a house for several years, and New York photographer **Jerome Zerbe**, who, says Gill, was a lover of both the actor and Scott. Gill laments the fact that although McCann's book is saturated with accounts of Grant's "unquenchable desire for women," he blithely overlooks "all the men Grant was attracted to in his youth and with whom he sought to form permanent relationships, always in vain." Gill's final line strikes a wonderfully strident chord: "The story of that struggle, often heartbreaking, remains to be told."

Quid pro quo

Several readers called earlier this week wanting to know why **Pithy Galore** wasn't in print last week. Well, Pithy would have been

page 55 ▶

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Playwright Wallace Shawn

Mourner

◀ *Arts cover*

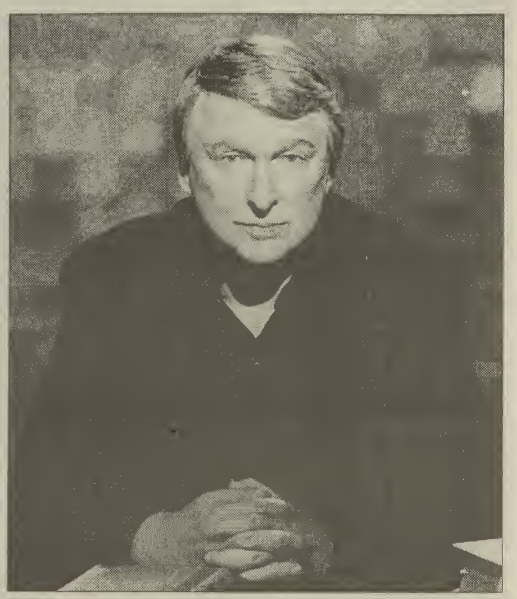
timately connected to the nation's intellectual and political elite goes back to the time of Howard's father. Howard, as a young author, wrote too revealingly of his father's political connections. But at the age of 30, Howard abandoned prose for poetry. According to Judy, this saved his life because no one pays any attention to poetry; troublesome ideas of a political nature, if framed in poetic verse, are unilaterally ignored. Yet the winds of political change blow in a new direction, and both Judy and her father Howard are imprisoned and eventually killed because of their cultural/political alliances. Jack, who abandons his wife and father-in-law as their troubles begin, ends up the only survivor — the *de facto* designated mourner.

Unanticipated heights

As Judy and Howard, Miranda Richardson and David de Keyser deliver the kind of intelligent and restrained performances called for in Wallace Shawn's script. However, stage and movie director Mike Nichols, as Jack, takes difficult material — and an unsympathetic character — to unanticipated heights. In his debut as a film actor, Nichols is mesmerizing. Jack begins as a charming but shallow boor and evolves into a monster, yet Nichols communicates the character's humanity throughout, making Jack's transitions not only logical but almost necessary.

The Designated Mourner never reveals the country where its action takes place, but the story recalls Chile, Argentina or Brazil. The lack of specificity in setting actually amplifies the dilemma presented by writer Shawn because his is a story of ideas, a story which raises dozens of questions that are never specifically articulated by the screenplay. Lives come and go, but the actors' voices never rise above conversational level. Oliver Stapleton's photography focuses on faces, and Bob Crowley's minimal set design does not reveal any of the players below the waist. The lights go up and down, the camera angles vary, and the colors of the backdrop change — this is the action of the film.

But those who pay attention will be prone to question many things. Were Judy and Howard really as evolved as they pretended? Did their political connections ally them with corrupt officials and, thereby, make them co-conspirators in a regime of oppression? Or were Judy and Howard the real thing, the intellectual elite that is always sacrificed when a reactionary coup deposes the intelligentsia? Is Jack to blame for the downfall of his wife and father-in-law? Can anyone lacking in depth and intelligence be held responsible for his own intellectual shortcomings? These questions, and many more, are destined to linger long after the screen fades to black. *The Designated Mourner*, despite its challenges, will be remembered as one of the most original and provocative films of the year. ▼



Mike Nichols plays Jack in David Hare's *The Designated Mourner*.

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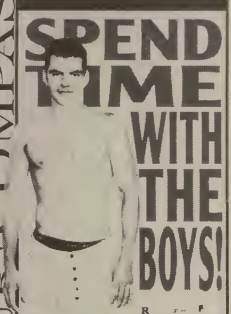
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CABARET

Make room for Musty



Jason B. Gaveiln

It was only a matter of time before San Franciscans were once again treated to the pleasure of seeing psychedelic chanteuse Musty Chiffon strut her plentiful stuff around the stage at Josie's, by turns banging that green tambourine and getting down on all fours in imitation of a cow. Musty created something of a sensation last year at Josie's with a show that found the singer doing the impossible: commingling fantasy-laden hits from the '60s and early '70s with the hyper-realism of Kurt Weill. If that combination wasn't enough to turn heads, there were outrageous costumes — paisley pant suits, purple and white polka-dot dresses, enormous platform shoes — and plenty of wacky banter. Austin Powers has nothing on this performer. Musty promises new material for her June run, but Jim Morrison, Grace Slick, and Steppenwolf will no doubt still be part of the mix. Show runs Tuesday-Saturday throughout June (10 p.m.) starting June 5 at Josie's, 3583 16th St. For tickets ($10), call 861-7933. ▼

—Pithy Galore

Campfire girls

Von Sternberg, Dietrich, Luther Price

by Gary Morris

The failed dreams of 1930s America that resulted in the Great Depression also spawned a soothing, if specious, escape route via the movies. Americans who saw a problematic present and a doubtful future could look to the screen for exotic, transporting locales, everything from the sensuous jungles of Indo-China in *Red Dust* (1932) to a fog-enshrouded London in *Dracula* (1931).

Of course, even audiences desperate for escape had their limits, and judging from its critical and commercial failure at the time, Josef von Sternberg's *The Scarlet Empress* (1934) hit those limits and kept on going. It wasn't until camp entered mainstream consciousness in the '60s that this baroque masterpiece came into its own as one of the cinema's most dazzling achievements.

The sixth of Sternberg's seven collaborations with Marlene Dietrich, *The Scarlet Empress* is a highly unorthodox biopic of Sophia Fredericka, the naïf who is brought from the provinces to the Russian court to marry Peter III and produce a male heir. Hints that this is no ordinary history come early in a startling montage of Tsarist Russia. Sternberg catalogs a shadowy array of blatantly sadomasochistic tableaux, from bodies spilling out of iron maidens to a man strapped to a whirling wheel, to the *piece de resistance*, a bound man used as a clapper in a gigantic bell.

The stylistic extremes in this sequence are fleshed out in the architecture of the Russian court. Audiences of the '30s must have been as slack-jawed as Sophia at the sight of 20-foot-high carved doors that take five people to open; giant, gnarled statues that hold a single candle; and functionaries mincing around in vast, ornate gowns and huge muffs. The director's bizarre streak extends to the characters. The extant empress (Louise Dresser), Peter's aunt, is a bitchy, rapacious harridan who screws her way through the royal guard. Peter (Sam Jaffe) is a grinning imbecile — "the royal half-wit" the empress calls him — who plays with toy soldiers and wants to kill his new wife. Count Alexei (John Lodge) is a sneering stud who courts Catherine while he's fucking the empress. There are endless secret passageways, multiple amours, and traitors in every corner. Stock Sternberg characters add sardonic color: a thieving chancellor, a sarcastic priest, a queenly hairdresser who prances up and down the halls in a mysterious state of disgust.

Sternberg delights in deflating the pomposities of the court, and in the process making fun of his own atmospheric excesses. In one scene, the empress reaches for her scepter and is inadvertently handed a turkey leg. When he isn't playing with his soldiers, Peter uses a gigantic hand-drill to make peepholes in various walls. The dialogue adds another dimension of sarcasm. When Sophia objects to Count Alexei's adulterous moves, he lectures her on the stupidity of morality: "Those ideas are old-fashioned. This is the 18th century!"

The Scarlet Empress shows surprising political savvy. Catherine succeeds in deposing Peter by winning over the two forces that have traditionally ruled empires: the church and the army. She wins the church by stripping off her jewels and handing them to the priest for the poor; she captivates the army by flirting with and then fucking the soldiers, in the tradition of her predecessor.



John Lodge and Marlene Dietrich in *The Scarlet Empress*.

Above all, *The Scarlet Empress* is a masterpiece of romantic inspiration, brilliantly visualized — Catherine holding a gauze net over her face as Count Alexei bends down to kiss her; a breathless encounter with the Count in a haystack, with Catherine putting bits of straw in her mouth as mock-protection against his lust; an impromptu rendezvous in a glittering dark forest with a soldier who doesn't know who she is.

No exit

At first glance, the idea of coupling Sternberg and Boston video and performance artist Luther Price seems as perverse as the grotesque statues that litter *The Scarlet Empress*. But Price's trashy, scratchy Super-8 feature *A* (1990) mines some of the same imaginative territory as Sternberg in its treatment of female exotica. Unlike Sternberg's carefully constructed, gorgeously lit muse, though, Price's Edie (played by the director) is a scaggy drag queen with a frozen grin who spends most of this 70-minute movie practicing dramatic entrances and exits, playing spin-the-bottle by herself, and being "courted" by various men who woo Edie with flowers and candy but are never allowed to appear in the same frame with her. The cumulative effect of Edie's endlessly repeated, apparently mindless activities, which take place in a seedy apartment, is almost as hilarious as Sternberg's take on Russian history, and some of his formal strategies are equally over the top. Particularly inspired is a recurring motif of Lassie (seen in sampled footage) running through various landscapes in an implied attempt to rescue poor, demented Edie. ▼

***The Scarlet Empress* and *A* play Sunday, June 8 (7:30 p.m.) at the SF Art Institute, 800**

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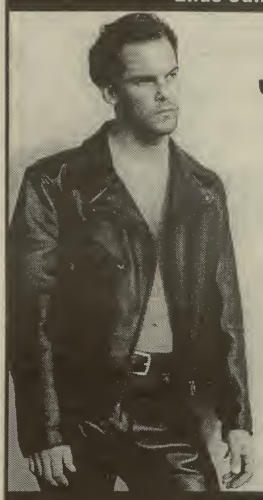


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The Pillow Book

◀ *Arts cover*

is not stable, but retracts to allow writing to appear underneath like legends below a frame. In other words, it's a cinematic fireworks display you and the kids can ooh and aah over.

The visual elements submitted to this state-of-the-art montage are at once lush and conservative — like textbook examples of film processing. There's a layer of Japanese pictograms (with some English margin notes) which covers other images or serves as their ground. There are quoted snippets, written and spoken, real and apocryphal, from the original *Pillow Book*, along with filmed illustrations that resemble so many Flemish still lifes.

There are a few stately clips representing Sei Shonogan as a full-color figure in traditional dress moving with Noh-like rigidity. The vision is glossily beautiful, but ultimately flat as a tourist brochure, suggesting not so much timelessness as the living death of the "traditional" arts.

The most developed piece of this mosaic is the black-and-white period treatment of the young heroine's formative memories, aka the major plot elements. Filmed in the manner of classic filmmaker Ozu (plus-airbrush), these seem like they should be happening in the '50s, or even earlier, although narrative chronology demands they occur in the '70s.

Three key events take place on Nagiko's fourth birthday: her aunt reads *The Pillow Book* to her; her bare-assed father confers with his publisher, who places a pile of paper money on the floor; her father writes his habitual birthday greeting on her face.

It's unclear why we have to watch her father repeatedly painting this same message on the growing child's face, but we do. We also have to hear the same sappy song, sung in high-pitched Chinese, more than once, which is plenty.

True to the deterministic logic of melodrama, the three birthday incidents yield the following developments: Nagiko grows up to be a writer; she finds a way to punish the publisher for his crime against nature and/or her father; she will spend years exhausting the fetishistic uses of the body-as-parchment.

Wu looks fine, but when she has to say more than one consecutive line, she loses conviction.

Blank slate

The film's sagging middle, its 45-minute second act, covers Nagiko's implausible apprenticeship. Deficient in dramatic interest or digital distractions, this segment unfortunately requires actress Vivian Wu to carry it — and she can't. She's nice and tall and looks fine naked, but whenever she has to say more than one consecutive line, she loses conviction.

Greenaway's gone on record as the arch-enemy of narrative, but here he dredges up vintage MGM rags-to-riches tripe: after Nagiko gets trapped in an unsuitable marriage, she starts writing. The marriage fails. She runs away to Hong Kong and works in a greasy spoon. All of a sudden, she's in haute couture — first in the office, but soon on the runway! Thus justifying designer clothes and unaffordable living spaces.

Here, the uneasy mix of desire and repulsion excited by Father's paintbrush on her cheek returns as Nagiko goes in search of the perfect calligrapher/lover. In quick succession and sans sex, we watch a series of mostly older men applying ink to various parts of Nagiko's anatomy. Whatever the erotic charge of seeing brush meet flesh, the symbolism of Man writing on Woman's body is hard to take. Had the actress had more oomph — say, Jennifer Tilly — it could have been fun. But Wu's so passive, so easily invaded, so lackluster and unresponsive — in a word, so tabula rasa.

What's missing here, of course, is a real down-and-dirty, mutual exploration scene between two women. Maybe that's further on in Nagiko's career. Maybe that's the sequel to this film that'll never be made. Relief from paternalistic sex play does finally arrive in the person of bisexual, multilingual translator Jerome (Ewan McGregor), who — bending gender — invites her to write on him!

Consisting of original and kinky material, this third act merits a film in itself. This is partly due to the increased screen time of Yoshi Oida as the salt-and-peppered publisher, a ruthless sexy guy with his feet on the ground. But it's mostly because we've left "narrative" and re-entered "art."

These last 45 minutes are exquisitely filmed performance art, a display of the books Nagiko writes on the bodies of men who display themselves to the publisher for copying (and copulation). The concept is Greenaway à la creme: it's cheeky, it's elegant, it cries out for interpretation.

The conflation of body with paper, ink with blood, literature and/or book production with sacrifice and/or sodomy, are fertile themes for which the director has found a fine framing fable. Why then does he brusquely dispatch the book/bodies, reducing them to brilliant vaudeville turns? Maybe the material is too scary for him, but his briskly efficient review of its potential may leave you feeling like you've only seen a coming attraction. ▼

***The Pillow Book* runs June 6-19 at the Castro Theatre.**

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From Porter to Parker

by Chad Jones

I'd Like to Hide It, a Salute to the Gay Lyrics of Cole Porter and Lorenz Hart is the title of a cabaret revue devised by 42nd Street Moon's co-artistic director, Greg MacKellan. Premiering June 6 at Star Classics for a short two-week run, the show is a historical outing of two of our greatest songwriters. Still, while the two shared an abundance of talent and a sexual preference, they were startlingly different. The flamboyant Porter, sort of the American upper crust's version of Noel Coward, had money, a beautiful socialite wife, success, and no reason not to parade his homosexuality. In fact, MacKellan points out, one of Porter's early lovers was fellow Yalie Jack Bouvier, Jackie Kennedy's father.

Hart, on the other hand, led a tortured life of secrecy and shame. The lyrics of each writer, MacKellan maintains, conceal direct expressions of their sexuality. As early as 1919, Porter was boldly writing about how he liked to see the queens up at the Ritz Hotel while Hart was more discreet. In Hart's "There's a Small Hotel," there's a reference to "marriage trade," which was code for a straight man who slept with a gay man. Those in the know — sophisticated straights and most queers — caught the reference.

"When you concentrate on the songs knowing what the songwriters' lives were about, you see how much they were injecting," MacKellan says. "Some references are obscure, but many are blatant. That's what's wonderful about these songs and these writers."

MacKellan's show, in which he stars with fellow 42nd Street Moon players Scott Grinthal, Lisa Peers, Eric Letourneau, and Brandon Adams, will revel in such juicy bits of queer history. Assisted by Hart scholar Kathleen Philis, MacKellan is even breaking some new territory. "Kathy has done extensive interviews with people who knew Hart," MacKellan explains, "and they believe Hart's torment was not that he was short or that he was ugly. It was that he was in love with his writing partner, Richard Rodgers, for most of his life."

Aside from the gay lyrics, MacKellan says he's enjoying seeing men sing love songs to other men, thereby making the songs queer, even if they weren't exactly intended that way. "There's such a history of gay men and women in musical history," MacKellan says. "Look at the statistics, 75 to 80 percent of the people who made and continue to make musical theater — designers, choreographers, writers, performers — are gay. It's our indigenous American art form, created and shaped by homosexual men and women, yet they've always had to write about heterosexuals."

Consider a show like *I'd Like to Hide It* another part of the queer history reclamation project. For more reservations, call Star Classics at 552-1110.

Saluting Officer

After two stellar engagements at the West Coast Cabaret Convention, San Francisco cabaret fans were not about to forget the extraordinarily talented Phillip Officer. And no doubt when Officer's two-week run at the Plush Room begins on June 10 — the singer's first extended gig in our city — his horde of loyal fans will be selling out the house. Boasting a confident, polished style matched note for graceful note by his rich, strong voice, Officer is undoubtedly one of the finest interpreters of the Great American Songbook in cabaret today. His new show, *You Keep Coming Back Like a Song*, will feature tunes by Berlin, Sondheim, Rodgers, Hart, Hammerstein, Kander, Ebb, Lane, and Harburg. Not to be missed. Call the Plush Room for more information: 885-2800.



Devon Cass

Phillip Officer



Joan Marcus

Sarah Jessica Parker

A musical appreciation

In addition to a score of glorious collaborations with Lorenz Hart and Oscar Hammerstein, part of Richard Rodgers' legacy to the world of musical theater is his daughter Mary Rodgers, a musical theater composer herself. Though her output has been decidedly less than her prolific father's, Rodgers has created an admirable body of work that is being celebrated on two recent CD releases.

The first is the new Broadway cast recording from Rodgers' one big hit show, *Once Upon a Mattress*, the fairy tale musical that made a star of Carol Burnett in 1959. The new RCA Victor recording features movie actress Sarah Jessica Parker in the role of Winnifred, Princess of Farfelot, who spends a rough night sleeping on a pea hidden below a tower of mattresses. Parker, who was once a show tune-belting orphan in *Annie*, is a delightfully winsome, though hard-working, princess. She doesn't have the buffoonish bravado of a Carol Burnett. Still, the show is an old-fashioned musical treat — clever, sweet, and entertaining. The new recording captures the Broadway revival's flair, but is no improvement over the original cast recording.

Several *Mattress* songs also appear on the original cast recording of *Hey, Love: The Songs of Mary Rodgers*, a three-person cabaret revue that ran at New York's Rainbow and Stars last year. Along with the *Mattress* songs on this Varèse Sarabande recording are bits and pieces from the rest of Rodgers' career: a musical of her children's novel *Freaky Friday* (made into a film by Disney starring a young Jodie Foster); *Hot Spot*, a musical starring Judy Holliday; *The Mad Show*, (with lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and Marhsal Barer); as well as a Shakespeare sonnet she set to music and a song from her unproduced musical based on *The Member of the*

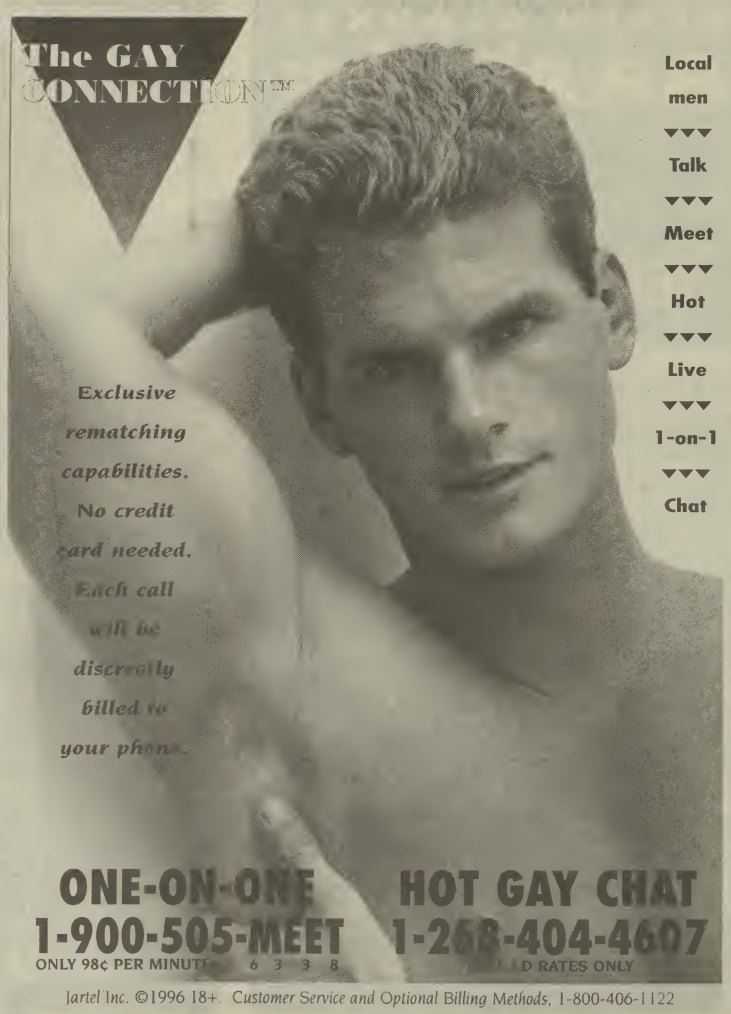
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Curtain Up!



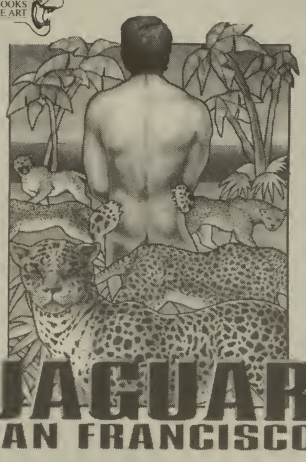
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Calumnious *House*

PBS documentary details dirty doings at Royal Opera House

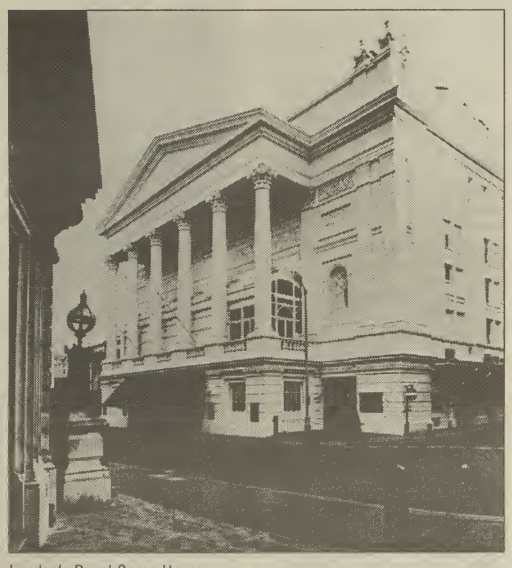
by Stephanie von Buchau

KQED has once again decided to contradict PBS and show *The House*, a six-part BBC documentary on Covent Garden, in June. I got to preview the series in advance of its public airing and can now urge readers not to miss one second of it. It's the best soap opera you'll see on television this year, and it's all true.

The House is the affectionate title of London's Royal Opera House, known to us colonials as "Covent Garden," after the vegetable mart where the Royal Opera House has been located since 1728. The current house, rebuilt after fire destroyed the previous building in 1858, supports two companies: the Royal Ballet (headed by former dancer Anthony Dowell) and the Royal Opera (headed by Nicholas Payne, with Bernard Haitink as music director).

At the end of the 1997 season this spring, Covent Garden closed for three years of repairs and modernization. Through much of the series we see the Royal Opera House's general director, Jeremy Isaacs, fighting for the money that will keep his companies afloat during their relocation from Covent Garden (SF Opera filberts will recognize this story). No matter how you look at it, begging for funds is not a pretty task, but this documentary proves that the beggars — the suits who run the Royal Opera House, its company boards, and the Arts Council that doles out public funding — are often their own worst enemies. By the time this 300-minute series is over, you will find every one of these self-serving, turf-defending bureaucrats more loathsome than any movie villain; some of them make Darth Vader look like Mother Teresa.

You might wonder why Isaacs would allow BBC documentarians to film sensitive, confidential, and damning situations involving personnel, such as the hiring of Keith Cooper, the new director of public affairs and a hatchet man of almost comic proportions? Some say that Isaacs, a former TV executive, gave director Michael Waldman unlimited access because he knew it would be "good theater." Others, less charitable, suggest that Isaacs was trying to weasel his way back into television following the closure of Covent Garden for repairs. Whatever the motivations, Cooper, with his buzz cut and powder blue suits, proves to be an abrasive whiner who blames everything on subordinates, whose own office loathes him, and who, when speaking to a reporter, manages to pour gasoline on a volatile situation by insulting a guest conductor who had the courage to question an overbearing director.



London's Royal Opera House

This latter event underscores one of the main themes of *The House*. At some point back in the mid-'70s, stage directors wrested artistic control from musical directors and they've been running the show ever since. The often horrifying results are no doubt familiar to SFO regulars who remember such outrages as the company's misogynistic *Cosi fan tutte*, or the brutal rewriting of *I Puritani* and *Prince Igor*. Perhaps we should count ourselves lucky; the outrageous examples of "misscenation" in this documentary are accepted by management and the BBC documentarians as both natural and acceptable. Theater specialists like Trevor Nunn and Tim Albery run roughshod over budgets and artists in order to do idiotic things like drag horse carts on stage or dress choristers in pink rubber gloves. When one conductor objects to this stuff, he is dismissed and Cooper announces to the press that it's okay because his "Massenet is like Mahler." The orchestra is furious, but nobody pays any attention to musicians in this opera house.

Artists are forever

Isaacs, Payne, and their snobby donors are besotted by anti-musical opera and ballet productions. They agree with the most uninformed audience tyro that the more glitz, the better. This is entirely the wrong attitude for people who are supposed to be producing art, which in the case of ballet and opera is *about music first*. Haitink, when confronted with ugly, unsuitable designs for a production of Wagner's *Ring*, says with barely concealed irony: "Perhaps I'm old-fashioned; maybe we should do it without the music?"

Even though she is patting herself on the back, it's hard not to agree with the Royal Ballet Board chairman, Baroness Blackstone, when she attacks the Royal Opera for hiring Maria Bjornson to design their *Katya Kabanova* at the same time Bjornson was contracted to design *Sleeping Beauty* for the Royal Ballet. "It's the most appalling incompetence," she hisses while Isaacs smilingly agrees with her. What is never explained is why either of them wanted Bjornson in the first place (she designed *Phantom of the Opera*; guess that answers my question). Her *Beauty* sets contradict the work's elegant French score and are so cramped and overblown it's a wonder ballerina Darcy Bussel can negotiate them.

Of course she does, and that's because she's a great artist, and great artists have a way of performing under even the worst imaginable conditions. In fact, it's the artists who are the heroes in this documentary, though the bean counters scarcely recognize the fact. American mezzo Denyce Graves loses her voice in the first

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Lesbian circus

Helen Eisenbach's 'Lesbianism Made Easy'

by Deborah Peifer

I never imagined doing it as a play," Helen Eisenbach explains when I ask her about the transition from the page to the stage of her hilarious, Lambda-nominated collection of essays, *Lesbianism Made Easy*. That struck me as odd, because I certainly annoyed friends and strangers alike for weeks by performing great hunks of the book over the telephone.

Eisenbach had written a play previously, *Lesbian Bathhouse*, so the notion of working in the theatre was not completely foreign to her. When Ed Decker, artistic director of New Conservatory Theatre, urged Eisenbach to turn her book about the joys and travails of lesbiana into a play, she decided to take a chance.

The play that will open next week at NCT "is a peculiar amalgam of media," says Eisenbach. "It's not a pared-down version, but an extravaganza, with lots of characters, sets, and costumes."

Eisenbach, 38, was born in New York but spent her formative years in Maryland. After an internship at *Ms.*, she worked as a book and magazine editor and became a real New Yorker. Her theatre experience consisted of being an avid audience member. "I had a friend who just had her heart broken, and I wanted to do something to make her feel better, so I wrote *Lesbian Bathhouse* for her."

Eisenbach wrote *Lesbianism Made Easy*, the book, because "I had a three-month deadline to write something funny." Her delight in being a lesbian is evident in her writing. Her response to the question, "Are you a feminist?" is emphatic: "Yes, of course. I am not of the generation that thinks there is something sexless about feminism. I always thought I was on an equal plane, even when I was 12 years old."

That feminist sensibility informs Eisenbach's directing style. Unlike many directors who see the job as one of power and domination over their actors, she sees theatre as a process of shared abilities.

Lesbianism Made Easy is Eisenbach's second stint at directing, a stage version of *Lesbian Bathhouse* being the first. "I couldn't find anyone to direct it, so I became the director by default." Although Eisenbach is directing her own play, she insists that "I'm not a diva about my words. I love the whole idea of the collaborative process. It's really delightful to see actors come into their own. I see my job as director as making the work the best that we can."

The theatrical version of *Lesbianism Made Easy* is "an absurdist romp with a hint of romantic comedy. It's a circus of lesbianism," Eisenbach explains. "What I write is comic and sexual. Everyone has rules about who you love, but love has no rules. I want the world to see a bunch of fun-loving lesbians."

What separates Eisenbach's book from other lesbian humor books is the seriousness of purpose underneath the comedy. The same is true of the play. In short, she wants to make lesbians visible to a culture that seems determined to forget them. "Beyond that," says Eisenbach, tongue firmly in cheek, "my goal is to change gay men and straight women into lesbians. I figure heterosexual men are already halfway there." ▼

Lesbianism Made Easy previews June 5-12 and opens June 13 at the New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Avenue. For information, call 861-8972.



Joe Abaldo

Helen Eisenbach

Gives good geisha

Frederic Mitterrand's 'Madama Butterfly'

by Stephanie von Buchau

As the San Francisco Opera gets ready to present *Madama Butterfly*, the second of its "Broadway style" summer operas, we would normally review the extant recordings. In the case of Puccini's weeper, however, they are not only too many but none is ideal, unless you have a pash for glam divas like Maria Callas, Mirella Freni, Renata Scotto, or Renata Tebaldi.

My top recommendation for the most natural, unforced view of the 1904 revised score is the 1995 French film version by Frederic Mitterrand, now available on compact discs (Sony Classical, two discs) and video (Columbia Tri-Star, letterboxed). Mitterrand and his excellent American conductor, James Conlon, play the opera straight and complete, and they smartly cast it with Asians for the Asian parts and Americans for the American parts.

You'll never see a handsomer trio of men in this opera than tenor Richard Troxell (the fresh, boyish Pinkerton, less of a cad than usual); baritone Richard Cowan (the suave, middle-aged consul, Sharpless); and Jing Ma-Fan (the scowling, angry young marriage broker who hates the sailors who have "peacefully" invaded his country). Mezzo Ning Liang is the sympathetic maid, Suzuki, while Chinese newcomer Ying Huang takes the role of Cio-Cio-San, the ,15-year-old geisha who foolishly gives her heart to a careless American sailor.

What makes this realistic casting work is the fact that all five can sing as well as act ,and Conlon has coached them to achieve delicate musical effects. The fortyish American conductor, who heads France's Bastille Opera, makes it clear that his diva shouldn't attempt Butterfly on stage; projection over Puccini's heavy orchestration would be beyond her. But on a CD or in a film, this is not a problem; indeed, we get involved so quickly that even the lip synch ceases to be irritating. Mitterrand adds some touches of magic realism and sepia-period photographs to his *mise-en-scene*, but mostly he simply lets the actor-singers get on with the story.

Troxell's high notes ring authoritatively, and Cowan, who benefits from close-ups (he's a real dish if you go for older men), makes the letter-reading scene nearly unbearable with his sympathy for the abandoned Cio-Cio-San and his anger at Pinkerton's boorish behavior. As for Ying Huang, it's almost spooky the way she manages to turn her head or lower her eyes along with the music. As a natural coloratura soprano, she has high notes to burn, but it was her expressive middle and lower voices — and her impeccable Italian pronunciation — that I found most moving. Conlon is a wonderful Puccini conductor, lingering over the pathos but never reducing it to sentimentality. ▼



Conductor James Conlon

San Francisco Opera presents Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, with four rotating casts, at the Golden Gate Theatre (Taylor at Market and Sixth) for 20 performances, starting June 7. Tickets are $25-$70 and are available through BASS (415) 776-1999. The Mitterand and Conlon film of *Madama Butterfly* will be shown on PBS in early July; check your local listings.







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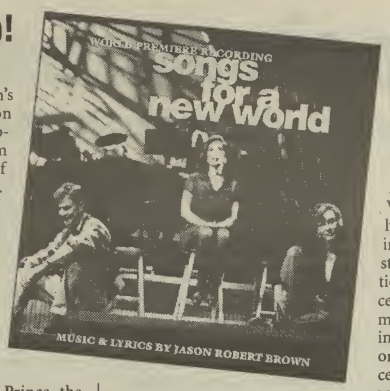
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Curtain Up!

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Wedding. The album's real find is a song on which Rodgers collaborated with Sondheim for a musicalization of *The Lady or the Tiger*. The song is "Once I Had a Friend," an overtly gay-themed tune about a man considering a path his life could have taken.

The cast of *Hey, Love* is superb. Headed by Tony Award-winner Faith Prince, the trio is rounded out by the strapping Jason Workman (last seen here playing Tommy's father in the national tour of that musical by *The Who*) and Mark Waldrop, who also directed. *The Hey, Love* cast recording does more to capture the essence of Rodgers than the new *Mattress* album — yet another example of less being more.

New voices, new hope

Every other week some publication or pundit is sounding the death knell for musical theater. Overwhelming costs and a lack of young talent are preventing a Broadway renaissance. Well, the Broadway musical has died a thousand deaths and keeps jumping back up for more. Enough has been said already about last year's landmark season, which featured the fresh energy of the late Jonathan Larsen's *Rent* and the Savion Glover/George Wolfe tap spectacular *Bring In Da Noise, Bring In Da Funk*. But not nearly enough attention has been shown to two smaller but equally worthy shows whose composers will no doubt enjoy promising careers in musical theater.

The true story of a farmer trapped in an underground cave in 1925 hardly seems the stuff of show tunes, but *Floyd Collins* is an astonishing musical, by turns conventional and forward-looking. As captured on the new Nonesuch Records cast album, Adam Guettel's music and lyrics evoke the bluegrass feel of Kentucky (where the accident occurred) while paying homage to the big, emotional Broadway sound. That the end result avoids contrived histrionics is no mean feat. Christopher Innvar's exceptional performance in the title role is but one of many stirring performances in this story of a man with big dreams who gets trapped in the ground while a media circus buzzes around him. *Floyd Collins* is an original and thrilling debut for Guettel.

At the ripe old age of 26, Jason Robert Brown has already made a name for himself in musical theater. By teaming up with director Daisy Prince (daughter of Broadway legend Harold Prince), Brown put together an Off-Broadway revue of his work, *Songs for a New World*, recorded by RCA Victor. As both composer and lyricist, Brown has been heavily influenced by Sondheim, but his style is more pop and more emotional. Though they aren't all exceptional, the *New World* songs mark the work of a bold, engaging new talent. Listening to this original cast recording, it seems certain that Brown will carry on where Jonathan Larsen and *Rent* left off, though without the rough, Bohemian, pseudo-rock edges.

As proof that Brown's career will have legs, his next big project is a collaboration with the elder, more famous Prince. Called *Parade*, the show is being written by Pulitzer Prize-winner Alfred Uhry, with music and lyrics by Brown. The musical will get its first reading this month with Matthew Broderick in the lead. Its creators hope *Parade*, based on the true story of Leo Frank's 1913 conviction for the rape and murder of a young female employee of his factory, will debut on Broadway in September 1998. A major-label CD debut and a Broadway show with the biggest director of them all — not bad for a kid fresh out of college. ▼

E-mail Curtain Up! at CRTNUP@aol.com with any theater or cabaret news.

Covent Garden

◀ page 40

episode and courageously finishes the performance of *Carmen*, passing out in the arms of her solicitous tenor, Neil Shicoff. Magali Damonte flies to London from Paris on 24-hour notice to replace Graves at the next performance; she's the only calm one on stage. Baritone Thomas Allen, just back from a transatlantic flight, is awakened and hustled to the Opera House to replace the scheduled Count in *The Marriage of Figaro*. He's never met the conductor and has to ask how tall is the soprano who will be singing his wife.

Isaacs makes one heartfelt plea for subsidies: "You cannot fund the arts on the basis of 'least-cost options.' The least-cost option is no arts at all, isn't it?" Nobly put, but his situation might not have been so desperate if he'd used more common sense. Opera house directors around the world had better heed the message of this documentary: the only heroes are the singers and dancers who soldier on in the face of artistic, administrative, and financial tomfoolery. And not just at Covent Garden. ▼

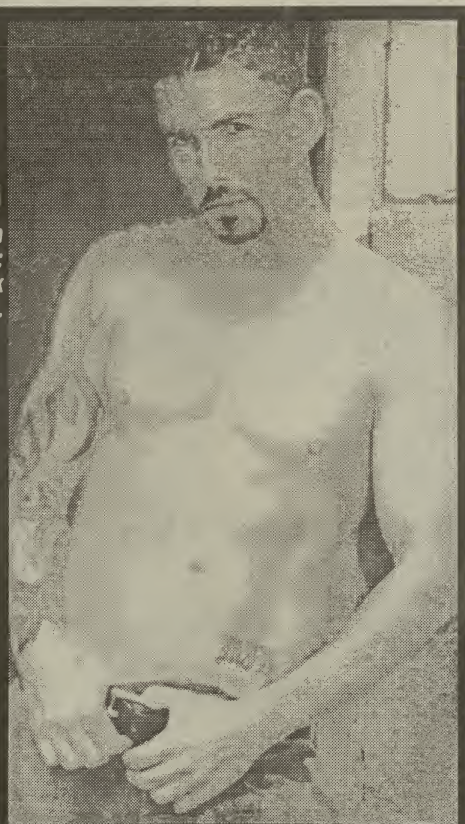
KQED-9 presents *The House* in three two-part programs, on consecutive Thursdays, from 10 p.m. to midnight, starting June 12. Check your local listings for details.

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Dyke tango



Terry Lorant

Throughout June, Gay Pride Month, Josie's Cabaret will present Miracle Theatre's *The Two-Bit Tango*, a spirited dyke detective comedy and "musical extravaganza." Join detective Nell Fury as she careens through local neighborhoods and subcultures, pursuing the complex mysteries of identity, pop culture, gender roles, and sexual orientation. For this show, Miracle Theatre and director Paoli Lacy have adapted Elizabeth Pincus' Lambda award-winning novel *The Two-Bit Tango*. Diane Wasnak, Joan Mankin, Audrey Smith, Ruth Cox, and Brian Freeman star. The Month-long run begins June 5 at Josies, 3583 16th St. For tickets ($12-$15), call 861-7933. ▼

The hungry muse

by Jim Nawrocki

Flesh and the Word 4, edited by Michael Lowenthal; Plume, $14.95

In his introduction to *Flesh and the Word 4*, the latest installment in the popular series of "gay erotic confessionals," editor Michael Lowenthal promises his readers that the stories in this anthology will offer not the predictable manipulations of pornography, but memoirs resonating with the "excruciating, exhilarating yank of the human condition." Lowenthal, who succeeds John Preston as editor of the series, also makes a case for the political nature of the gay memoir, noting that the genre is the literary answer to the iconic gay slogan, "Silence=Death."

Presented with a seductive photo on the front cover (two blurred, nude, muscular male bodies) and a carnival-barker "teaser" on the back that promises "taboo-breaking" tales that "fire up the flesh," one is apt to greet Lowenthal's high-mindedness with skepticism. But the anthology's 23 stories are as much about the nature of desire, and about our sometimes mysterious need for human connection, as they are about sexual fulfillment. Some of the stories, chronicling journeys into lesser traveled regions of sexual identity, also aspire to the political status Lowenthal discusses in his introduction.

Not surprisingly, there are a good number of stories here about young gay men discovering and exploring their sexual nature. Tom Cole's "Lax or Unstable" is a brief account of the writer's early fantasies, and of his ability (thanks to contortionist-like talents) to satisfy himself in an unusual way. In "Mustard Seed," James Ireland Baker tells of finding a pornographic novel as a teenager and fantasizing about the lives of its gay heroes as he deals with the pain of a first, and unrequited, love.

In addition to accounts of youthful love, *Flesh and the Word 4* also tackles the controversial topic of the love of youth. Ed Sikov's "Jailbait, 1997," though not about pedophilia per se, deals with the risks and thrills of love between teachers and students. Michael Lassell's "Gnat," about a fortysomething man's infatuation with a young man in his 20s, also contains a confession about the writer's erotic attraction to young boys. "But one moment you can remember," Lassell recalls in a second-person reverie, "the moment you realized you loved younger men, and how perilous a road you were about to go down." If Lassell's story is a poignant, somewhat overwritten treatment of the topic, Michael Lowenthal's "Are You a Pedophile?" is (as the title indicates) a less subtle approach. Lowenthal not only details his own teenage attempts to lure sex from younger boys in his neighborhood, he challenges his gay readers to examine their own psyches for similar longings.

Exotic erotic

In his own contribution to this anthology, and in his selection of other pieces, Lowenthal clearly seems interested in exploring the far reaches of the gay sexual experience. This is most apparent in Avram Morrison's "Brown Party." If the title isn't enough to warn readers standing at the gate, Morrison includes a quote from one of W.B. Yeats' "Crazy Jane" poems to serve as a pointed hint of what's to come: "But Love has pitched his mansion in/The place of excrement ..." Morrison's detailed descriptions of coprophilia will no doubt be a test for many readers. He is quite aware of this, and at the conclusion of his unflinching account he points out that such "forays outside the boundaries of civilized behavior" should be "chronicled as an authentic part of human history."

Flesh and the Word 4 contains similar chronicles. Michael Bronski's "Dr. Fell," for example, is the story of one man's experience with a partner who has to cut himself with razors and knives in order to attain arousal. It is also the story of Bronski's attempt, as a writer, to find the words to relate his experience. He jumps back and forth in time, using journal

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CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

High performance



by Robert Julian

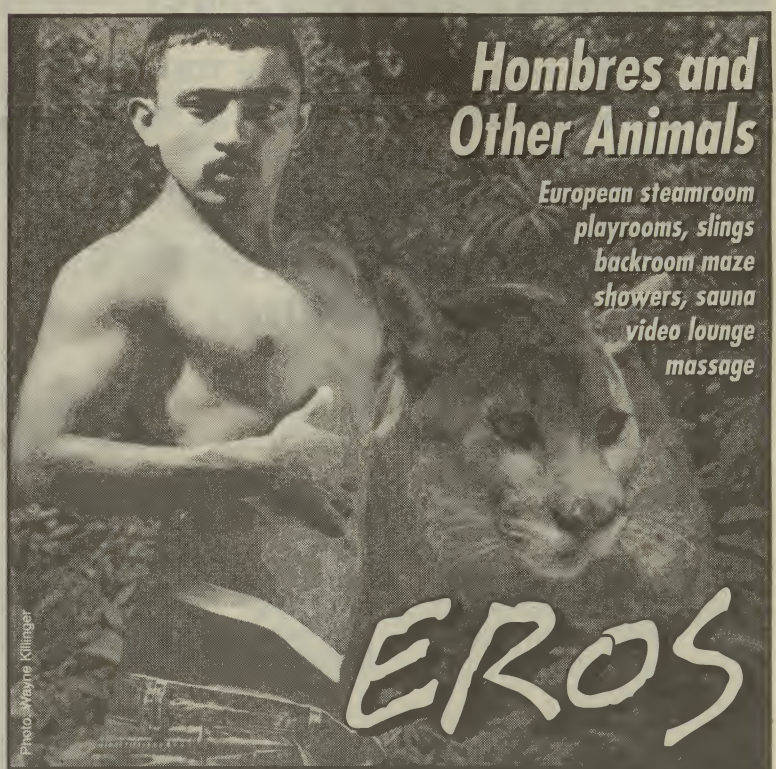
Children smile and laugh, but it's the adults who sit slack-jawed and bug-eyed with wonder as young, hard-bodied athletes execute a symphony of stunning moves beneath the big top. Supported by a live band, original music, and beautiful costumes, Cirque du Soleil, the company that reinvented the circus, has returned to the Bay Area with its latest production, *Quidam*, running through July in Oakland's Jack London Square. The stunning success of this French-Canadian export has resulted in mega-bucks sponsors, major product merchandising, and several international touring companies, but the quality of the work remains stellar. You won't believe what aerial contortionist Isabelle Vaudelle can do suspended from a red silk curtain. The fact that Cirque's High Concept performance art goes just as well with Dom Perignon as it does with nachos and beer is nothing short of a miracle. Go ahead, buy the tickets. *Quidam* earns the ultimate San Francisco accolade: it's worth the trip to Oakland! ▼

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Tongues untied

Magazine bridges linguistic and cultural barriers

by Wayne Hoffman

When a message isn't getting through, the solution isn't always to repeat it in a louder voice. Sometimes the message needs to be reworded, reconsidered, or rethought. And sometimes it needs to be translated.

Gonzalo Aburto Iniesta, a Mexican-born journalist living in New York, knew AIDS information often wasn't reaching the Latino community. He also realized it wasn't merely the fault of Latinos and Latinas that they didn't know what everyone else knew.

"People are saying that after all these years if you guys have problems about prevention or education, it's because you don't want to listen to the message," says Iniesta. "But for many Latinos and Latinas in the United States, they don't have access to the information because they don't speak English."

As part of a group of Latino AIDS activists, Iniesta approached *POZ* magazine publisher Sean Strub two years ago to remedy the situation. *POZ*, launched in 1994, already had a high profile as a glossy HIV lifestyle magazine. Iniesta and his colleagues felt that rather than starting a new magazine from scratch — a financially unlikely proposition — they could link up with Strub's magazine, sharing production facilities and resources, to bring AIDS information to Latinos in a language they could understand.



POZ en Español printed its first issue this spring, with a look and style similar to its English counterpart. Profiles, columns, and features accompany news blurbs, resource listings, and reviews. Familiar ads for protease inhibitors and home-testing kits are here, but in Spanish. Some news from Latin America is included, but the focus is primarily on the United States.

"A magazine like this will spread information about what's going on in the AIDS crisis in this country," says Iniesta, who is now editor of *POZ en Español*. "The Latino community deserves that because we have been left behind in this issue."

Just as *POZ* started a few years ago with a bang, *POZ en Español* has aimed for an instant high profile. The initial press run of 100,000 is larger than the *Advocate*'s; 10,000 are being sold on newsstands, and the rest will be distributed free through community groups and targeted mailings. One more issue is due out this fall before regular quarterly publication begins in 1998.

The wide targeted readership poses an important question: exactly what Spanish should the magazine use? Languages have dialects. For example, Australian English and American English are distinct — Americans may understand some Australian expressions but they still recognize them as foreign. What language could Puerto Ricans, Dominican Republicans, and Cubans all read without feeling excluded from *POZ*?

"We put a lot of effort into using language that is accessible to everyone," Iniesta says, arguing that Spanish-speaking cultures are more closely aligned linguistically than their English-speaking counterparts. "Yes, you can use cultural expressions, as every country has, but only if everyone understands them."

Beyond stereotypes

Language is only one consideration, however, when creating a magazine for the Latino community. There are also cultural issues that need to be examined.

Rafael Diaz co-founded Hermanos de Luna y Sol, an HIV-prevention program for Spanish-speaking gay and bisexual men in San Francisco. In his studies of Latino communities around the United States, Diaz has found that many men don't see themselves reflected in the perspectives of AIDS-related information campaigns, even if they understand English.

"A lot of material for gay men assumes a given cultural definition of gayness. For example, it assumes you are out to your family and workplace, assumes you are highly connected with a peer support group, that you are a participant in a lot of certain activities," says Diaz, adding that these assumptions subtly skew information that is supposedly objectively presented. "For Latino men, there is a whole set of facts that is interpreted through the filter of cultural experiences, issues having to do with poverty, racism, not seeing the medical profession as your ally."

Diaz hopes *Poz en Español* can overcome the cultural bias of other AIDS publications, but, he says, it will take more than writing in Spanish to accomplish that goal. "We need to start asking about the subjective experiences of Latino gay men. To the extent that the magazine takes into account the issues people are really experiencing, it will be successful. If it's a translation of the English magazine, just *POZ* in Spanish, that's absurd!"

As with the English-language *POZ*, *POZ en Español* rides a difficult line: is it a gay magazine or not? English *POZ* strives to be inclusive, but also reflects a certain critical mass of gay-specific coverage and a vaguely defined gay sensibility. How will *POZ en Español* handle this balancing act?

"I'm gay, many of the writers are gay, and many of the people we profile are gay or lesbian," says Iniesta. "But I'm not sure if there is any specific sensibility *because* we are gay."

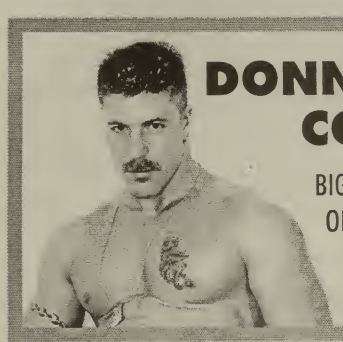
Agosto acknowledges that it's important to reach out beyond a gay audience without reinforcing the homophobic silence that often surrounds gay issues in most AIDS information.

"It's always hard to separate AIDS issues and gay issues. In *POZ en Español*, they cannot make it strictly a gay publication. In the Hispanic community, yes, we have a high percentage of gay Hispanics affected, but you also have Latina women who are drug users, and straight men," says Agosto. "I'm sure they're going to be very careful with that."

POZ en Español faces challenges in reaching its desired audience, but drawing on a wealth of resources and experience from its English counterpart gives it a distinct advantage in terms of exposure, support, and distribution. With these things intact, Iniesta can finally offer an essential message about AIDS to the Latino community: hope. Or, in Spanish, esperanza. ▼

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BOOKS

Visionary perverts

by Erin Blackwell

The Essential Gay Mystics, edited by Andrew Harvey; HarperCollins, $21

Author, lecturer, translator, Goddess-worshipper, and all-around mystic Andrew Harvey, who gave his first interview with a gay publication to the *B.A.R.* just last year, has come all the way out of the closet with *The Essential Gay Mystics.* And he's brought a lot of fabulous people with him — some you've heard of, some you haven't, but all of whom criss-cross the sexual/spiritual divide with abandon.

The companion volume to HarperCollins' *The Essential Mystics,* this queer compendium of poetry and prose by ancient and modern poets, playwrights, philosophers and novelists Eastern, Western and Native definitively puts the sex back into spirituality and the spirit back into sex. Come to think of it, when those two quantities meet, maybe what's produced is Love, which people keep saying is what God's supposed to be.

Depending on your cultural references, you'll be surprised to learn by their inclusion that writers you knew to be queer were also mystical — or vice versa. And Harvey's vision is inclusive — albeit posthumous — allowing Cocteau, Colette and Yourcenar to penetrate his pages. (Allen Ginsberg apparently wasn't dead by deadline, but why not Derek Jarman?)

But there never was much to choose from between art and religion in their most essential forms, as this letter by Rimbaud suggests:

"I say that one must be a *seer,* make oneself a *seer.* The poet makes himself a seer by a long, prodigious, and rational *disordering of all the senses.* Every form of love, of suffering, of madness . . . he becomes the great patient, the great criminal, the great accursed — and the great learned one! — among men. — For he arrives at the *unknown!*

The harder call is perhaps whom one dare classify as gay or lesbian. (Why not Van Gogh?) Harvey declines to include nuns (with the exception of Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz) or priests — even though convents and monasteries are well-known queer preserves.

But let's not quibble. There are Greeks, Romans, Native Americans, Chinese and Japanese, Persian Sufis (sans Rumi), Shakespeare and Michelangelo. Then we fast-forward to 19th- and 20th-century Westerners, with nobody below the equator.

The English-speaking 19th century is particularly well-represented with Americans Thoreau, Melville, Dickinson, Whitman, plus Anglos Edward Fitzgerald, Gerald Manley Hopkins, Edward Carpenter, Christina Rosetti, and Oscar Wilde. Reading the vibrant, heartfelt words of these not-so-distant ancestors is almost unbearably moving, seated as we are on this cynical prospect, the eve of the Millennium. Edward Carpenter is a particularly lucid find:

"Sex is the allegory of Love in the physical world. It is from this fact that it derives its immense power . . . Therefore whoever has truly found another has found not only that other, and with that other himself, but has found a third — who dwells at the center and holds the plastic material of the universe in the palm of his hand."

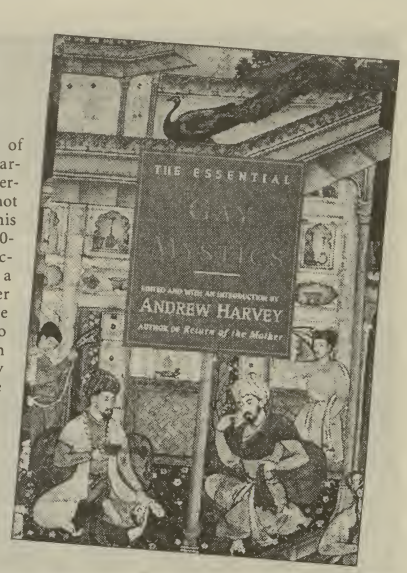
Harvey places Whitman at the center of his gay cosmology, calling him "the pivotal visionary in the history of gay mysticism and a key figure for an understanding of the sacred significance of homosexual liberation in particular and sexual liberation in general."

Harvey seems to be enjoying a passionate embrace across the centuries, an intense identification with the bearded one who "became, through his inner experiences and through a fearless opening to sexual passion, a tantric master — a profoundly awake, wise, ecstatic, *direct seer* of the highest realities."

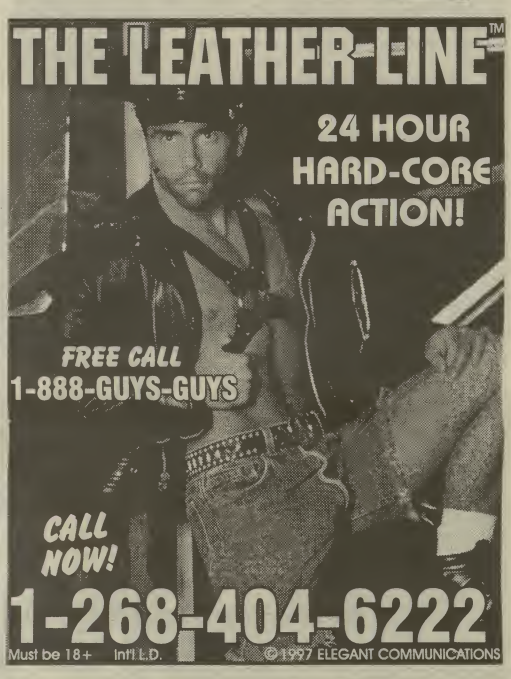
No argument, the guy got around. But for irony, subtle strategy, word choice, concision, I have to choose Dickinson (also well-represented here), the great poet of solitary transcendence. Terse where Whitman rambles, selective where he catalogues, retentive where he expulses, Dickinson witnesses to the unbearable suffering of the self and beyond, or within, to the ecstasy of Soul. Here's her poem number 539, one Harvey missed:

"The Province of the Saved / Should be the Art—To save— / Through Skill obtained in Themselves— / The Science of the Grave / No Man can understand / But He that hath endured / The Dissolution—in Himself— / That Man—be qualified / To qualify Despair / To Those who failing new— / Mistake Defeat for Death—Each time / Till acclimated—to— "

Maybe the best response this volume could inspire is a counter-compendium of all the bits Harvey left out. Certainly, he has not exhausted his subject. His 10-page introduction reads like a position paper begging to be expanded into a book-length treatise. If only there were some way to get straights to pick up a book with the word "gay" in the title. Oh well, one step at a time. ▼



You'll be surprised to learn by their inclusion here that writers you knew to be queer were also mystical, or vice versa.



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I've just seen a face

by Steven Jenkins

You Are the Weather by Roni Horn; Scalo, $44.95

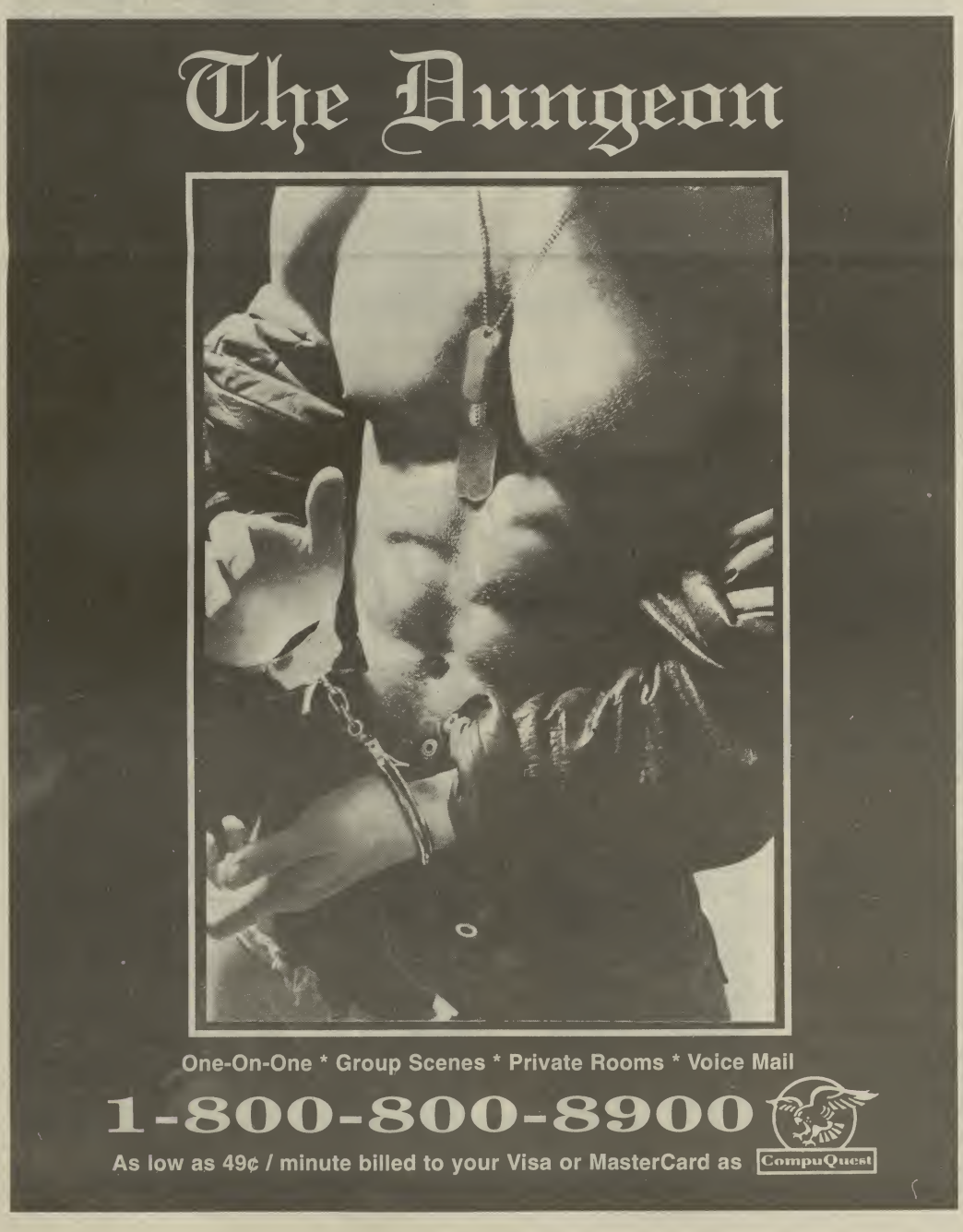


Roni Horn

Margrét

Who is she? Who is this woman whose face appears in extreme close-up on page after page after page of Roni Horn's *You Are the Weather*? At first, all we know for certain are the facts that Horn supplies in her beguiling book's only passage of text: "These photographs were taken in July and August of 1994. For a six-week period I traveled with Margrét throughout Iceland. Using the naturally heated waters that are commonplace there, we went from pool to pool. We worked daily, mostly outside, and regardless of the changeable, often unpredictable climate that frequents the island." Slowly, we come to know more, or we fool ourselves into thinking we *can* know more, by scrutinizing these 100 portraits of Margrét as she emerges from the steam and aqua of the hot springs. We notice details — red lips, piercing blue eyes, a small earring — and we watch as her face registers shifts in mood, from jubilant to somber, suspicious to trusting.

As part of Horn's "Encyclopedia of Identity," an ongoing project in which she explores the complex relationship between identity and place, *You Are The Weather* originated as an exhibition and succeeds with unnerving intimacy in book form. Inspiring both personal reflection and déjà vu, Horn's subtly distinct portraits might be considered rigorously theoretical or intensely erotic, depending on how you respond to the mystifying repetition of a single human face. Finally, *You Are the Weather* reminds us how difficult it is to truly know someone. I've looked at Margrét's face hundreds of times now — she's familiar to the point of invisibility — and I probably wouldn't recognize her if we crossed paths on the streets of Reykjavic. ▼



Flesh and word

◀ page 43

entries and reflection, to come to terms with the unsettling memories of his former lover. In addition to its explorations of one sexual extreme, "Dr. Fell" touches upon another significant issue of gay sexuality — the multiple-partner relationship. Bronski does not devote a significant amount of time to this issue, but he is the only writer in the collection who deals with the topic at any length.

In addition to its out-of-the-ordinary offerings, *Flesh and the Word 4* also covers more familiar ground. There are several tales of lost love, unfulfilled longings, and fleeting encounters. C. Bard Cole's "Michael M: A Case Study of Doorbell Trade," is a kind of cinema verité account of an intermittent and somewhat mysterious sexual relationship between the writer and a wandering art student/bike messenger. Vestal McIntyre's "Moving Story" is an earnest, heartfelt tale of two lovers moving apart from each other. While AIDS clearly pervades many of the confessional pieces in the collection, Canaan Parker's "One for the Road" and Jim Grimsley's "The Masturbator" deal specifically with sexuality in relation to AIDS and illness.

The writers in Lowenthal's collection effectively answer his challenge to "bare themselves at their most vulnerable." For those willing to go along for the ride, *Flesh and the Word 4* offers some memorable moments. ▼

Soulular guy

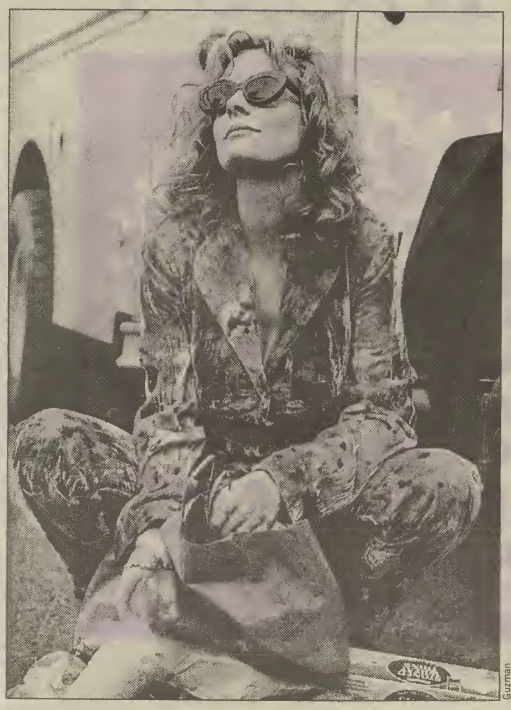
by Glen Helfand

Todd Oldham: Without Boundaries; Universe, $27.50

While other super-designers publish overblown tomes exalting their connections to rock stars and royal families, Todd Oldham, as always, bucks the trend with homegrown aplomb. The convivial designer's new paperbound book is a must for chic second-hand coffee tables. It captures Oldham's out sensibility with equal helpings of Swarovski crystal and vintage Technicolor photos from *Arizona Highway* magazine.

Boasting fashion photographs, testimonials from friends and colleagues — including San Francisco-based graphic designer Tom Bonauro, who is responsible for the dreamy, kaleidoscopic look of the publication — and interviews with Oldham himself, readers learn about the refreshing impulse that inspired those zany combinations of retro patterns and shiny denim jeans (he simply lets his "creative flower bloom"). John Waters, who penned the breezy introduction, suggests Oldham's success comes from knowing "there really is no such thing as 'ugly.'"

Oldham emerges from these pages as a charmed golden boy with alternative culture instincts. But while this book definitely works the designer's aura, he doesn't use it to promote his own celebrity (though boyishly handsome, there are no headshots of Oldham in these pages). Instead, he makes his vision clear by displaying photos of his outlandishly beaded dresses — frequently pictured unflatteringly flattened on a black background — along with images of prized flea-market trinkets and outsider art canvasses he apparently paints himself. Oh, and pictures of Susan Sarandon wearing his designs.



Guzman

Susan Sarandon wearing hand-tie-dyed, crushed-velvet suit, fall 1994.

Oldham's perky, experiential demeanor — he describes himself as "almost an idiot savant" — may, however, stir up venom in wannabe fashion mavens. Besides being a smashing success with his clothing and signature fragrance businesses, he's a "soulular" optimist who delights in having his "eyes tickled" by unlikely color combinations. "Lime green and purple are so great together," he says. "It's like a guaranteed party." He almost makes you feel like you're invited. ▼



Michael James O'Brien

Billy Beyond-wearing Collage Sublimation Print ensemble, spring 1992.

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman



Arthur Tress

Boy Hanging from Tree, Vancouver, Canada, 1976 (detail)

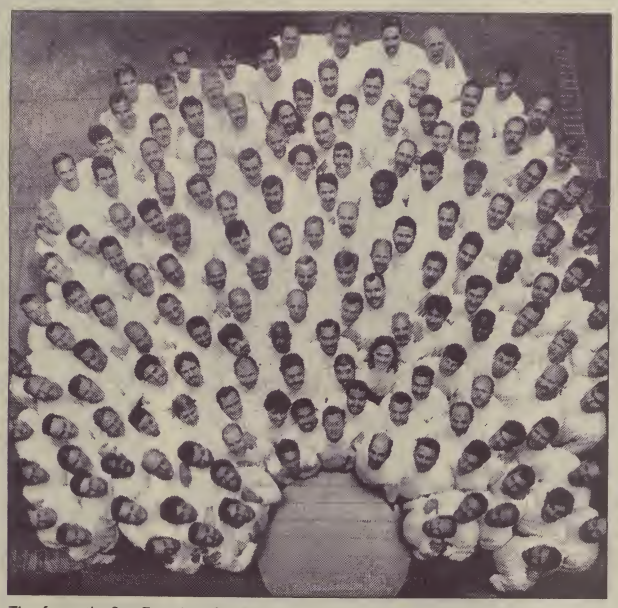
Nude is

John Ashbery wrote, "Considering that the male nude is a fairly common household object, it's always surprising how 'political' it looks when represented in art." The photograph of the male nude can still frighten the horses: a *New York Times* reviewer once opined that the nudes of Mapplethorpe and Hujar "inhabit a world that is closed to most of us, fortunately: a world in which men expose their bodies to strangers in a confused invitation to sex."

Of course, that's just *our* idea of a perfect world. Opening tonight at the Scott Nichols Gallery, *The Male Nude II* is a juicy assortment of photographs whose subjects are, as they say on the marquees, all live nude men. The show ranges from the classic camp of Bruce of Los Angeles to a striking Peter Stackpole print of WWII Marines washing out their undies in a Saipan river, and includes memorable images from Jock Sturges, Vince Sullivan, Lucien Clergue, Craig Cowan and others. But it's the art photographer Arthur Tress who steals the show.

Tress has been staging and shooting his sometimes bizarre erotic psychodramas since the early '70s. His long history of arranging tableaus of nude men in natural, domestic or industrial landscapes has garnered art world attention, and the Corcoran is reportedly planning a show of his work, although you wouldn't know it from the 1995 gay art survey *In a Different Light*, where he was one of the more glaring omissions. His four portraits here include the recent nudes-with-refrigerator *Lovers in the Kitchen* and the wonderfully topsy-turvy *Boy Hanging from Tree* from 1976. We'd say that boy is well hung, and so is this exhibition. ▼

The Male Nude II remains on view through July 5 at the Scott Nichols Gallery, 49 Geary; opening reception tonight, Thursday, June 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Call 788-4641 for information.



Tiny faces: the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus perform the Best of the Best at the International Center. See Saturday.

Fri 6

Carrie Field
Performance artist in psychic reading work-in-progress. $5-10. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Ctr., 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Delirium
New one-woman show by Stanya Kahn. Fri.-Sun. thru 6/8. $10. 8pm. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 550-6928.

Depth of Flavour
At-home micro-galley of contemporary art, thru 6/8. Rover, 471 Church. 552-9497.

Dividing Lines:
"Race and Class," raw performances, spoken word, music, more. Fri. & Sat. thru 6/14, 6/15 at 8pm. $10-15. Luna Sea Women's Perf. Proj., 2940 16th St. 863-2989.

Durang, Durang
Actors Theatre of SF presents six vignettes by playwright Christopher Durang. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 6/14. $16-18. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

I'd Like To Hide It
42nd St. Moon performers sing a salute to gay lyricists Cole Porter, Lorenz Hart. Fri. & Sat. at 6:30pm thru 6/14. $15. Star Classics, 425 Hayes. 552-1110.

MACT Chat Night
Early MACT/BWMT history with early member Tom Cahill, free. 7pm. 2nd fl., Lone Star, 1354 Harrison. 675-0201.

The Mystery of Irma Vep
Aurora Theatre Co. & Magic Theatre Co. present Charles Shaw Robinson and Danny Scheie in Charles Ludlam's spoof of gothic horror. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 6/29 (7/8-27 at the Magic, call for times). $20-22. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant, Berkeley. (510) 843-4822.

Pandemonium
Antenna Theatre's celebration of spring, a walk-through outdoor performance. Thurs.-Sun. at 8:30pm thru 6/22. $12-15. Headlands Center for the Arts, 944 Fort Barry, Marin. 332-4862.

Ralph Nader Is Missing!
Charlie Varon's new comedy for four actors. Thurs.-Sun. thru 6/29. Call for times, prices. Tonight at 8:30pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

Smackers
SOON 3 experimental theater company: couples kissing in captivity, in outdoor performances, free. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 6/7. Washington Square Park. 558-8575.

The Two-Bit Tango
Dyke detective comedy and musical extravaganza opens. Wed.-Sun. at 8pm thru June. $12-15. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Sat 7

Best of the Best
SF Gay Men's Chorus present a cabaret showcase. $10-25. 8pm. Ballroom, Internat'l Ctr., 50 Oak. 863-4472 x10.

The Big Drag
1940s stage noir comedy by Chris Leader and Sean Owens. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 6/7. $12-21. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Bridget Swartz
Stand-up comedy, Saturdays thru June. $7. 8pm. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Building for the Future
Haight Ashbury Free Clinics celebrates 30th anniversary with gala dinner, auction. $100. 6:30pm. Palace Hotel, 2 New Montgomery.



Puppeteer Chrystene R. Ells (Pasqual) with Punch in *Memento Mori* at Bindlestiff Studio. See Thursday.

Club Papi
Latino/a gay pride celebration dance club, go-go, drag divas. 9pm-2am. 170 W. St. John, San Jose. (408) 793-0113.

Crystal Fair
Crystals, minerals, jewelry, healing arts. Sat. & Sun. $4. Bldg. A, Fort Mason. 383-7837.

Culture Core
Latina Theater Lab, DramaDivas, Lily Cai Chinese Dance, more, in gala benefit. $6-12. 8pm. ODC Theater at Perf. Gallery, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

Gay Geeks
Social haven for gay, bi, les intellectuals & visionaries, free. 2pm. Janice's Java Joint, 1551 Dolores. 679-3680.

In the Street
3rd annual SF Street Theatre Festival performances, processionals, more. Sat. & Sun. 500 block of Ellis betw. Leavenworth, Hyde. 905-5958.

Kimo's B'day Party
Benefits AIDS Memorial Grove. Buffet 9pm, show 10pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Marin Pride Festival
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Coalition of Marin throws BBQ Dinner and Dance Party. $10. 6pm. San Rafael Comm. Ctr., 618 B St., San Rafael. 457-1115 x209.

Musty Chiffon
Singer/songwriter, psychedelic cabaret star in revue. Tues.-Sat. at 10pm thru June. $12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

My Uncle Sam
Rough and Tumble in Len Jenkin's play. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 6/15. $16-20. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. 673-1172.

Queer Arts Resource
Launch party for Summer 97 exhibition on world wide web (http://www.queer-arts.org). 6pm. Internet Alfredo, 790A Brannan. 642-3624.

Queers for Cuba
Music, dance, celebrates five years, with Blackberri, Bay Area Lesbian Choral ensemble, more. $10-25 suggested, benefits US youth at World Youth Fest in Havana. 7pm. New College Cult. Ctr., 766 Valencia. 995-4678.

Roy Lichtenstein Prints
Exhibition from the Anderson Graphic Arts Collection, thru 9/14. $7. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

Sun 8

Arabesque Concert Dance
Contemporary ballet in studio performance. $4-7. 7pm. Jon Sims Ctr., 1519 Mission. 431-4509.

Beer Bust
Benefits SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, Jon Sims Ctr. 3-6pm. SF Eagle, 398 12th St. 626-0880.

Gary Wu
Chinese gay rights activist speaks to PFLAG, free. 2pm, support group. 3pm, program. St. Francis, 152 Church. 921-8850.

GAWK
Workshops for videomakers w/equip., rock musicians. Call for info & location. 731-2424.

Mon 9

Art on the Front Lines
"Of Healing," artwork by people with life-threatening illness or disability. Mon.-Fri. thru 6/30. 4th fl., City Hall, 401 Van Ness. 255-3474.

Barbara Kingsolver
Word For Word presents performance of *Rose-Johnny*, talk w/author. $25. 8pm. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 543-9505.

Dennis Cooper
Reading from *Guide*, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Dr. Bill McBride
Educator reading from *Entertaining an Elephant*, free. 6pm. Under One Roof, 2262 Market. (800) 525-2125.

Gay Comedy Open Mike
MC Amy Boyd, aspiring funny performers sign up by phone. $5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Home Care Companions
Free training workshops for caretakers of PWAs. 6/9-13, 2-5pm. Center for African & African-American Arts & Culture, 762 Fulton. 824-3269.

Tom Lafferty
Photographs: an insider's view of NYC culture, thru June. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Tues 10

Dorothy Allison, Bernard Cooper
Two acclaimed gay authors discuss truth and memory, benefits Women's Foundation. $16. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 392-4400.

Espejos de humo
(Smoky mirrors), works on paper by Joel Rendon, Artemio Rodriguez, Jose Galindo, thru 6/15. Polanco Gallery, 393 Hayes. 252-5753.

Heavenly Bodies
Photographs by Richard Misrach, with William Wegman's *Lost & Found*, thru 6/28. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661.

Home Grown
The Fields of Califas, four installations on human rights in Cal. agribusiness. Thru 6/21. Galería de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Lesbianism Made Easy
Reception for play version of Helen Eisenbach's book, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Michael McDowell
Recent paintings, thru 6/18. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. 863-2891.

One Community /Many Faces, Bay Area gay & lesbian writers Giovanna Capone, Carla Trujillo, John Tunui read, free. 12:30pm. Yerba Buena Gardens, 701 Mission. 978-2700.

Philip Knoll
Drawings and paintings, thru 7/12. Refusalon, 20 Hawthorne. 546-0158.

Quidam
Cirque de Soleil, French-Canadian circus. Tues.-Sun. thru 7/20, call for times. $16.50-45.50. Tonight at 8pm. Jack London Square, Alice at Embarcadero, Oakland. (800) 678-5440.

Richard Grossman
Reads from *The Book of Lazarus*, with Dennis Cooper reading from *Guide*, free.



Dividing Lines: Race and Class, performances at Luna Sea, starts Friday. See listing.

Ellen McDermott

7pm. Booksmith, 1644 Haight. 863-8688.

Sylvia

A canine comedy by A.R. Gurney. Tues.-Sun. thru 8/31, call for times. $30-37. Tonight at 8pm. Marines Mem'l Theatre, 609 Sutter. 771-6900.

Transformations

Group exhibition of contemporary art includes Andrea Arroyo, Serena Bocchino, Adam Kurtzman. By appt., thru 6/20. ArtHaus, 1053 Bush. 922-8219.

Xena Night

Warrior princess on two screens, free. 8pm. Chat. House, 139 8th St. 255-8783.

Wed 11

GLOBE Mtg.

Ina Mae Murri, Nikki Galvan, both released from military for sexual orientation, speak to Gays and Lesbians Organized for Betterment and Equality, free. 7pm. Rm. 307, University Union, Cal State Hayward. (510) 538-7044.

HEAL Mtg.

Dr. Michael Ellner, hypnotherapist, speaks to Health, Education, AIDS Liaison group, free. 7pm. Park Branch Library, 1833 Page. 441-0685.

Homenaje

Homage to Spanish dance and flamenco, stars Sara de Luis and company. Tues.-Sun. at 8pm, Sat. & Sun. at 2pm. $22-25. Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Hurrell's Hollywood Portraits

Exhibition of prints from golden age of the Silver Screen. Wed.-Sat. thru 7/12. Photo Metro Gallery, 17 Tehama. 243-9917.

Mark I. Chester

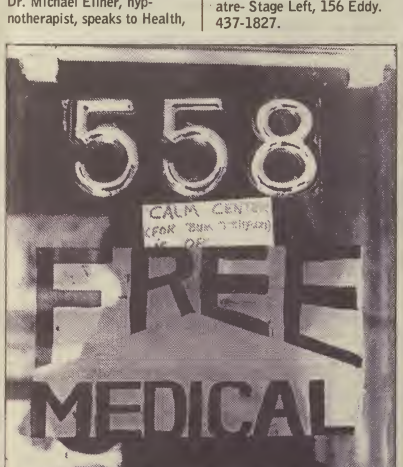
Photographer presents slide show of *Diary of a Thought Criminal*, free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

Oscar Wilde:

Diversions & Delights, John Gay's play stars Ken Ruta. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sat. & Sun. at 2pm thru 6/29. $20-30. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 788-9453.

Various Get-ups

Comic play: two trapped insomnia-ridden women, written and performed by Meg Martin, Katie Hare. Wed. at 8pm thru 6/25. $8-10. Exit Theatre- Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 437-1827.



Haight Ashbury Free Clinics celebrates its history with *Building for the Future* gala dinner and auction at the Palace Hotel on Saturday night. See listing.

Visions of Modernity:

"Photographs from the Peruvian Andes 1900-1930" exhibition. Thru 8/24. $3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0404.

Thur 12

Beyond the Paradise

Mexican Butoh dancer Diego Piñón in ritual dance. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 6/14. $10. Dancers' Group Studio Theater, 3221 22nd St. 824-5044.

A Body of Time

New drawings by Iris Polos, with *Disinterred*, new drawings and sculptures by Patricia Sannit. Thru 6/30. Catharine Clark Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

Daddy-Butt

Butt-Rageous contest, benefits AIDS Emergency Fund. $7 beer/soda bust. 8-11pm. Daddy's, 440 Castro.

Dining Out For Life

Dine at 50 participating restaurants, portion of bill benefits Visual Aid. For autofax, call FYI-0999 x4LIFE.

D-L Alvarez, Ruby Neri

New exhibitions by former Bay Area artists, thru 7/5. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom. 626-5416.

End of the World Party

Play about six gay friends sharing a summer house on Fire Island. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 7/19. $16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Gay Resistance:

The Hidden History book launch features socialist Merle Woo. Radical Women mtg, 7:30pm. ("Stonewall Inn" supper, 6:30pm, $5) New Valencia Hall, 1908 Mission. 864-1278.

I Can't Put My Finger

On It, art on sexuality and identity by Mark Paron, Mark I. Chester, Loren Cameron, more, curated by Steven Compton, reception tonight, 6pm. Thru 7/12. Luggage Store Gallery, 1007 Market. 255-5971.

Memento Mori

Chrystene R. Ells and 8 twisted puppets in dark comedy set in dead-end carnival. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 7/5. $10. Bindlestiff Studio, 185 6th St. 974-1167.

Noche de Hombres

Safe sex seminar, workshops in Spanish and English, play party. $8 before 7pm, $11 after. 7-9pm. Eros, 2051 Market. 225-4921.

Out, Loud & Proud

Celebration of Pride through Art, a juried exhibition, features 24 GLBT artists. Tues.&Thurs. thru 7/8. Bridge Gallery, 689 Bryant. 267-1866.

Samuel Fleming Lewis

Black-and-white drawings which reflect African art. Mon.-Fri. thru 7/15. Gensler Architecture, 600 California. 433-3700.

Scott Heim

Reads from *In Awe*, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Shear Madness

Whodunit set in unisex hair-styling salon opens. Tues.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. $28-32. Mason Street Theatre, 430 Mason. 982-5463.

Strip! Bare-ly Legal

Interactive theatre experience set at a male strip club. Thurs.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. $29. Rococo Showplace, 165 10th St. 392-4400.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

This Week's Dinner Specials

Patio Cafe

Grilled Center-Cut Pork Chops, with pineapple-sweet & sour sauce, chef's rice or mashed potatoes....9.50

Grilled Pacific Salmon with lemon-dill beurre blanc, fresh vegetable & chef's rice or mashed potatoes.....10.75

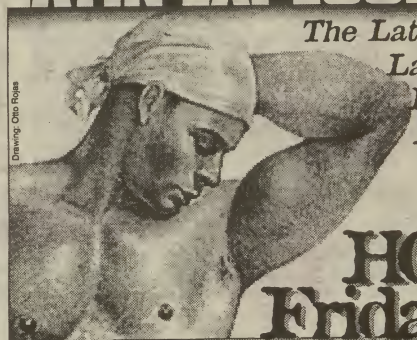
Chicken Marsala with mushrooms, marsala wine and sour cream, served over fettucini.....8.95

Grilled 12-oz N.Y. Steak with bearnaise sauce, onion rings and french fries or baked potato.....11.95

PRIME RIB au jus with baked potato and creamy horseradish.....11.95

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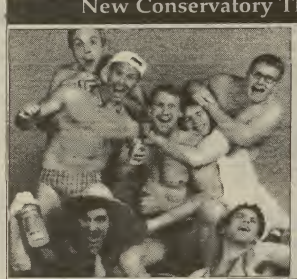
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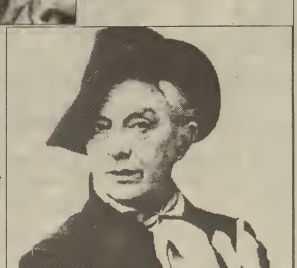
BAY AREA REPORTER

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Tickets $16 & $20

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June 14 @ 8 pm
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$10 Previews
June 5-12
Opens June 13

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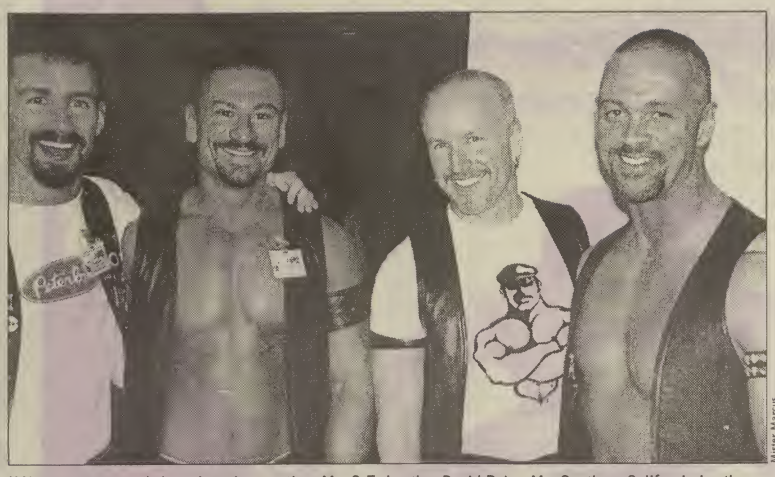
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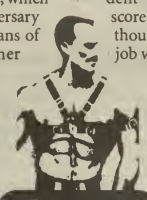
Mister Marcus

IML contestants at their registration meeting: Mr. S.E. Leather David Palm, Mr. Southern California Leather Art Ocasio, Mr. Cell Block (Chicago) Leather Brian-Mark Conover and Mr. Belgium Leather Luc de Vylder.

IML '97 revisited

by Mister Marcus

The overall reaction of all who attended IML '97 in Chicago over the Memorial Day weekend is that it was indeed a "10"! There's not enough room here to thank all the volunteers who helped Chuck Renslow and IML Inc. make the event such a success. Over 100 people who attended this year's extravaganza have already made reservations at next year's host hotel, the Ramada Congress, for IML '98, which will mark the 20th anniversary of IML. Longtime veterans of the San Francisco leather scene (and you know who you are!) who made it to Chicago for the first time this year were absolutely flabbergasted! "I've been missing *this* all this time!" was the lament of many.



Bazaar

The weekend ticket price for IML '98 is again $125, and the 20th anniversary gathering is really going to be a blast! Make your hotel reservations by calling the Congress Hotel (1-800-635-1666). Charge your weekend package tickets by calling 1-800-545-6753, or mail to: IML Inc., 5015 North Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640.

Reserved seating is assigned according to your registration's receipt. Remember: Only applications reserved together will be seated together! Don't miss this milestone in our history!

Fun-loving three-way

According to an informal survey of the contestants, if a Mr. Congeniality award had been given, it would have been a three-way tie between Mr. Boston Leather Steven Foster, Mr. Pistons Leather (Long Beach) Mark Malan and Chicago's Mr. Cell Block Leather Brian-Mark Conover. They exemplified the philosophy that should prevail at all these competitions: *Have fun!*

As happens every year, some of the contestants who didn't make the cut stomped out in anger. Only one man can win, and of course, there were many disappointments. However, each of the judges is knowledgeable, independent and free-thinking and scores each contestant with the thought: "Who will do the best job with this title?"

As for IML '97 Kevin Cwayna, he's so laid-back and so unimpressed with his new stardom that by last Wednesday, he had yet to examine the prizes that came with his victory. He's so friendly, easygoing and blessed with a terrific sense of humor that you'd hardly suspect Mr. Cwayna is a medical researcher. Even though he's an M.D., he doesn't make house calls. However, certain rumors are floating around that his (in) bedside manner is quite extraordinary!

The shenanigans: Well, it's safe to say that several delegates to IML '97 got "married" for the weekend. The "divorces" followed Sunday night or Monday morning. One of the judges was smitten by a Seattle leather boy who just happens to be an airline type and will doubtless be visiting our turf in the future. A San Francisco shop owner was equally enthralled with a former Mr. San Diego Leather who "switched" from being a top to being a "boy" – at least in Chicago.

Among the contestants? Oh, say a half-dozen "matings," but those ended when some made the cut and the others didn't!

The layout of the Congress Hotel affords "window sex" for all the exhibitionists. Hastily scrawled signs with room numbers and "welcome" words were flashed back and forth, and the 1997 Folsom Street Fair posters made their debut in Chicago, but they vanished as soon as they were put up!

It was cool in Chicago, so everyone wore leather most of the time. The bar in the hotel was very, very leathery, but the food at the Congress is mediocre at best and they have yet to train the staff to speed up in all departments! With all the bears in town as well, the Chicago bars were jammed, so the hotel lobby turned into a *huge* leather bar with the hotel staff blushing and blinking their eyes in disbelief at some of the goings on. Thank goodness, no security personnel checked the stairwells, tea rooms (Hi, Mr. Ho!) or even the elevators!

The fundy Promise Keepers, gathered at Soldier's Field, didn't bother our people, but Chicago gay activists held a "kiss-in" on Saturday morning (no report on the outcome). The Chicago TV stations reported that local clergy rejected (surprise!) the beliefs of the 22,000-strong misguided ones.



Mister Marcus

Mr. SF Leather Tom Powers in full leather gives his 90-second speech before a crowd of 3,000 at IML in Chicago.



Mister Marcus

IML's Chuck Renslow (right) posed with new IML icon Kevin Cwayna while a thousand flashbulbs popped in Chicago.

LEATHER SCENE

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, June 5
Free HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison, 2030-2230, courtesy of Blow Buddies and the Stop AIDS Protect.

Saturday, June 7
Alameda County Leather Corps' "Rub-a-Dub '97" picnic/barbecue at 1300 at Lake Chabot Marina, with a $6 beer bust or $8 with food. Rowboat races, fishing derby and costume contest. Call 510/537-5428 for information.

Sunday, June 8
Regiment of Black & Tans (LA) Flag Day beer bust at Gauntlet II, $6, 1600-2000. Uniforms!

The SF Lesbian/Gay Marching band hosts Eagle beer bust, 1500-1800, $8, food, Dixieland Dykes+3!

Wednesday, June 11
Wet Wednesday at 933 Harrison. Walk in, float out. Doors open 2000-2300.

Thursday, June 12
Choosing Mr. December '98 on the Bare Chest Calendar. Win $100, fame and have your beauty preserved for all posterity! At 2200. Be there!

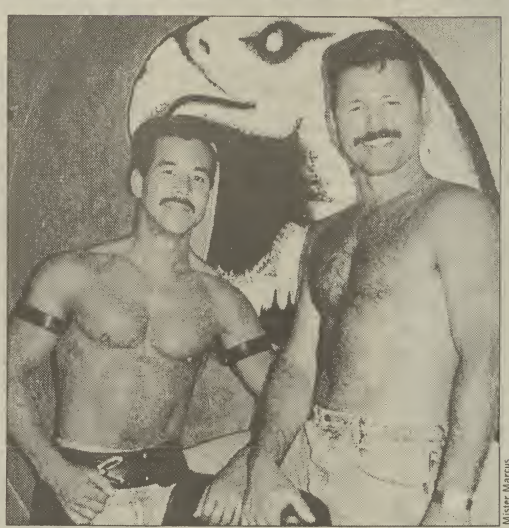
IML '97 was a smashing success. Some San Franciscans missed their planes and didn't get back to town until as late as last Thursday. Those were the lucky ones whose weekend marriages lasted longer than most! Hey, if you're going to be there for the 20th anniversary *next* Memorial Day, make your plans now!

Homo on the range

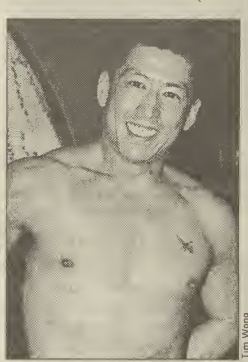
On Thursday, May 29, the next to last spot, Mr. November '98, on the Bare Chest Calendar was filled. Six men displayed their pulchritude for judges George Carreras, Paul Lester and Don "Ho" Tse. Actually, Mr. Tse replaced Alex Hill who didn't even bother to call to say he couldn't make it! Alex, you really blew it this time!

After all the nonsense (and a quite impressive Bare Chest Chorus), the winner was Ingu Yun, and the runner-up was a feisty Joe Cardoza. The final spot, Mr. December '98, will be chosen next Thursday, June 12, and on Thursday, June 26, all 12 winners will compete for the cover spot. Incidentally, in case you hadn't heard, Jim Wigler has agreed to photograph the entire calendar this time around, and it will be in full color! A collector's item for sure!

The horsey set converged in San Jose last weekend for the Bay Area Gay Rodeo at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. It was very, very hot, matching the mood of all who attended. I was honored to be the grand marshal of the event, and enjoyed all the hunky cowboys and their equine friends. The festivities continued through Sunday night, and everyone seemed to be having a great time! ▼


Mister Marcus

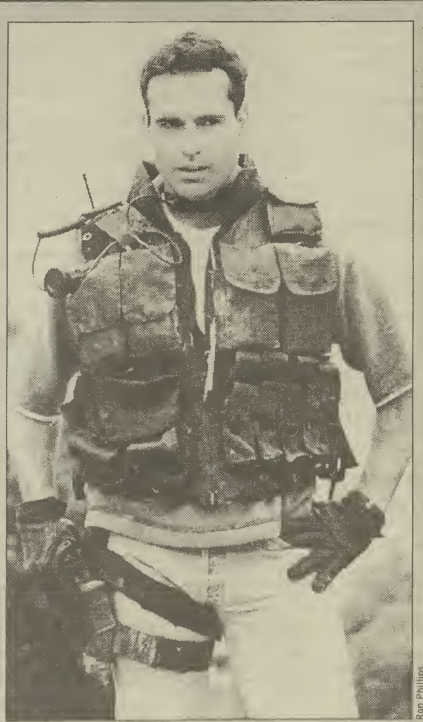
Mr. November '98 Ingu Yun (left) on the BCC gets cozy with runner-up Joe Cardoza at the Eagle May 29.


Tim Wong

Mr. October '98 Cory Iwatsu on the Bare Chest Calendar.

HUNK OF THE WEEK

Pithy's pick


Ron Phillips

Hunk of the week this week is Jason Patric (pictured), star of *Speed 2: Cruise Control*. Though Pithy desperately wanted to see Keanu Reeves reprise his role as sexy swain to Sandra Bullock's saucy minx, we've decided that Mr. Patric is no slouch in the stud department. Pithy is particularly taken with the actor's broad shoulders, sturdy chin, and that slightly pouty lower lip. Mr. Patric's thighs aren't bad either, and are shown to considerable advantage here. We're sure the movie is a ghastly, stupid bore but apparently Mr. Patric has a scene in which he struts across the screen in nothing but a Speedo and another in which he strips down in order to don a wet suit. Now that will get us to *Speed 2* posthaste. Film opens here June 13.

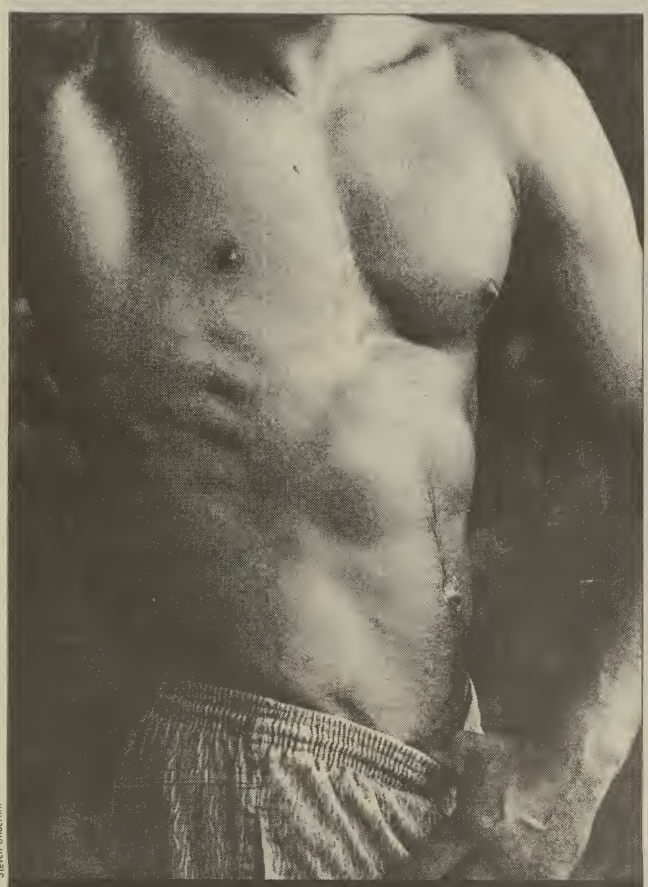
Also looming on the horizon is *Batman*, starring George Clooney as the caped crusader and Chris O'Donnell as boy wonder Robin. Interestingly enough, *Batman* director Joel Schumacher, who is reportedly a big friend of Dorothy's, told Ingrid Sischy in the June *Interview* that he is well aware of the film's homoerotic edge. Doubtless he won't be singing that tune, though, when Barbara Walters does her inevitable splashy *20/20* interview with the director. Our sources tell us that Schumacher was just as enamored of Clooney as he was of Val Kilmer, the other Batman. But how did George feel about Joel. ▼







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PARTING GLANCES

Sun May 4 6PM China Court And.
You: blue shirt w/friend, we smiled at each other big time. me: hot man w/black jacket. You waved crossing Castro going into Harvey's. You're beautiful! I'm single! Call me. ☎ 6301.

5/7 Moving Day On 18th St.
You: on a bike, cute, nice smile; brought me some bags to help me move. Me: short, blondish, goatee. Would love to get acquainted. ☎ 6302.

Joe Blow Buddies 5/2
You: blond, green eyed, Italian, we played for hours! You're one hot man! Can't get your rugged good looks and powerfully built body out of my mind. Please call, Anthony. ☎ 6303.

Spike's Sunday 5/11 3:30 PM
You: Black leather jacket, dark hair, handsome. You were talking with two friends outside. You were driving a red Suzuki 750 Motorcycle. ☎ 6304.

Mother's Day
Hyatt Union Sq. Suburban Sal spoke to you but was too embarrassed to talk more. You: long hair, gray polo, shorts. me: black polo/jeans. Pls call me. ☎ 6305.

Pinnacle Club Sauna May 3
We met Saturday May 3 in the sauna. Told me Enrico's was a good place to go. Call if you want to do it again. ☎ 6306.

Tommy At The Pleasuredome
I gave you a ride to Travel Lodge. My name's Dave. We kissed in my car and I was dying to hear from you, but you never called! Please call. ☎ 6307.

Duncans Mills 5/13-Black Truck
We nodded to each other as I turned onto Moscow Rd. 6:45. Me: in white van. Want to meet? ☎ 6405.

Second Chance!
Monday May 12th, 19th street between Collingwood and Castro, 2PM. Me: red/brown hair with Filipino friend. You: Asian? across street. Exchanged eye contact. Want to meet. ☎ 6308.

Upper Polk Asian
Gray bike shorts, gold T-shirt, shoulder and brown grocery bags. Crossing Polk at Lombard Sunday May 4th at 6PM. Strawberry blond hunk would like to meet you. ☎ 6309.

Hello Blue Audi From BMW635CS
We passed each other on Market/Diamond Ht blvd. on 5/9 at 5:45 PM. I smiled, you smiled. Your headlights were on and then you were gone. Call me please. ☎ 6310.

Jay K. Where Are You?
I miss you a lot! Need another taste of big, beautiful dick soon. Please forgive, feed me again & again! XOX-OXO Chris. ☎ 6311.

North Point Movie Glances
Eyes met seeing "Liar Liar" at theater. Interested in meeting. Call me and see what happens. ☎ 6312.

Sat. May 17, Market & Sanchez
You: black and white tank top, convertible. Me: shorts, no shirt, walking. Three smiles. You didn't stop. Why? ☎ 6401.

Loading Dock On Sat 4/19
You: muscle guy w/brown hair & mustache. Me: nice-looking, Asian chatting with some fat old guy. Please call me!! ☎ 6402.

G-Spot 5/17
You: gorgeous, short dark hair, white tank, black bra, arm wrestling at the bar, smiled at me but kissed the other blond. me: blond, aqua tank, ripped 501's. Call me. ☎ 6403.

Baker Beach-Kayak Con Hat 5/17
You: "Kayak Connection" hat, black short pants, nice smile. Me: white T-shirt, cream short pants, brimmed hat. Leaving asked where you got your hat. A walk on beach together? ☎ 6475.

Soho, Before Mothers' Day
We were joking about cards for deep South Mothers' Day. you: sleeveless "For Aerobics Only" shirt. I should've asked for your number or you for mine. ☎ 6404.

Hey! Danny R. From Big Mama's
I heard you were still in SF. Remember "Let's watch TV." Ex-husbands #2 and #3 passed—Let's keep in touch #1! John John. ☎ 6406.

5/17 Beerbust Badlands
Bill this is Dan, you were with a friend. I was sitting at the bar and you bought me a beer. I would like to get with you. ☎ 6407.

Sunday May 11th
We sat at adjacent tables eating lunch at la Mediterranean. I was reading Rebecca. You were about to travel to Paris and Amsterdam. Care to meet? ☎ 6501.

Red Blazer Sat Aftrnn Castro
You: passenger, blk, strikingly hot. you were leaving . Me: wht guy with shorts & head rag. Been noticing each other lately. Get hard thinking about you! Please call. ☎ 6502.

SF Muni Sun 5/25 10:15 PM
You: BM, mustache, got on at Castro. Me: WM, beard, bomber jacket, got off at Church St. We looked; we smiled. Wanna meet? S 6503.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Midwest Farm boy In SF
VGL, prof, 46, 6'2", 180#, blond/blue, HIV-, NS, into hiking, biking, fine wine, travel, camping, spiritual seeks similar/younger for quality times. UR: masculine, affectionate, have sense of humor. ☎ 6313.

Latino Bottom Seeks Latino Top
Sexy, hairy, Latino looking bottom seeks dominant Latino top for sex, friendship and more. ☎ 6317.

All American Redhead
Attractive, creative, prof. GWM, 32, 5'8", nice bod ISO sexy, outgoing, masc. Midwestern man, HIV-, 30's, for friendship/dating. Enjoy rollerblading, camping, exotic travel. ☎ 6314.

GAM 4 GBM
You: humorous, caring. Sensitive, over 30, HIV-, top, >5'9", in SF, intellectual. me: warm, caring, educated, 5'10", 145#, HIV-, 30's. Are you the one for me? ☎ 6315.

New Uncollared Slave Boy ISO
Mono LTR w/tall, handsome, hung, gym toned, hairy, leather Master, HIV+, 40's, w/ playroom, restraints, spanking, flogging, hole stretching, bareback servicing. Me: 30's, 5'8", 28"W, gym toned, smooth, cute, discreet, prof. ☎ 6316.

Romantically Sexual
Sweet gdlkng Japanese, 35, 5'8", 140#, blk/blk, mustache & slim. Seeking mature, sincere, honest, humorous GWM, 50-60. Interests: theater, music, movies, outdoors. Sweet baby face A+. No muscular person. ☎ 6318.

New To SF, Seeking GAM or GHM
GWM, 40, 170, 5'10", masc, handsome, adventurous, unpretentious. Into travel, outdoors, film. Skiing mono relationship or friendship. Be 30+, smart. Am HIV+, asymptotic, working, healthy. Your status irrelevant. ☎ 6319.

Nice Guy
Nice looking, 50, HIV+ 5'11", 190#, bro/bro, non-smoker, versatile seeks in shape, masculine guy to 50. Friends? Sex? Dining? ☎ 6320.

Elfin Handsome Warm & Sincere
(So, I'm told) 40 something GWM, looking for as young or younger horny HIV- top. "Daddy Pumpkin" If you love a comfy fun life let's talk! ☎ 6321.

Reasonably Sane
GWM, 50, professional type, fun loving, romantic, seeks same in SF for companionship and adventure. ☎ 6322.

Enjoyable Head Service
Given by a GWM, 40's, 5'10", 170#, clean-cut looking, HIV-, seeking a mature trim guy, 55-65, who likes getting his rock's off on a weekly basis. Your place. ☎ 6323.

ISO Sweet Gentle Top
44, 6', 165#, wants you for hot play. UB: 30-50, in shape, NS. I'm experienced, versatile, goodlooking, hairy chest & ass. HIV+, healthy, UB2. Open to dating/LTR with that special guy. ☎ 6324.

South African GWM
Spiritual seeker vibrant upbeat fun loving seeks soul connection: Spiritual life partner 30+, to share the journey to total love & enlightenment. passion included smoking not. ☎ 6325.

New Hopes And Dreams
Single of 2 years looking for GWM, 35-45, for exploring back roads, theater, travel and more. Must tolerate cats. Myself, chunky, 36 yr Asian, HIV-, down to earth. ☎ 6408.

Bear Wit
White bear, 6', 197#, clean shaven, addicted to humor and wit seeks bright and warm lover for spicy dinners and eternal bliss. I am 45. You are under 44. ☎ 6409.

You: Anywhere 40+ Skg Mate
GWM, 36, 5'10", 175, cln shvn, glasses, brn-balding, H2L. Average build, honest, loving, F/T student w/bright future. Likes hiking, camping, swimming, cooking, movies, beaches, homelife (ours)! Anything. ☎ 6410.

Not Pacific Heights Millionaire
Am passionate, romantic, GWM (43, 5'11", 190#). Former university professor, new to SF wishes to meet other GM for friendship, fun, companionship. Clean-shaven graduate student type with slender to medium built a plus. ☎ 6411.

Spousal Material
Bedroom eyed, 6'2 1/2", 205#, HIV-, GBM, articulate, emotionally connected, great kisser, sexually open-minded. Prefer 30-45, in shape, great looks, NS/ND, emotionally available. ☎ 6412.

Attractive Latino 26
I'm 5'7", 170, muscular, masculine, student seeking HIV+ guys, Latinos or whites under 35 for friendhsip maybe more. NS and broadminded only. ☎ 6413.

Not Endowed Or A Greek God
But a stable, slim, smooth, fit, early 50's, professional GWM and an enthusiastic bottom. We are open minded, HIV-, NS/ND and you are 40's, 50's, any race and ready. ☎ 6414.

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino, 5'7", 150#, HIV-, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, likes running, hiking, movies, looking for GWM for friendship or maybe more between 25-37yo. Enjoy quality of life. Call me. ☎ 6434.

Romantic Candlelight Dinner
Looking for a goodlooking Latino for relationship GWM, 30, goodlooking 140#, looking for a machismo Latino for LTR, must be HIV-, 20-30, goatee and skinny +. ☎ 6415.

Olympic Cocksucking Overkill:
Rules require competing cocksucking teams to swallow results. But why else suck dick? I wanna swallow your loads by the mouthful: Nature's ultimate gourmet protein. Far cheaper than mere caviar! ☎ 6416.

Brawny Guy ISO Gemulichkeit
Euromutt smoker, 5'11", 190#, stache, hairy likes gym workouts with tongue shower. Wks swing/grave yd shift. DOU? Be 25-40, in shape, HIV+, liking stinky man sex & lattes. ☎ 6417.

The Least You Owe Your Dick
Is to be sure it's never sucked by less than a USFCCS (United States Federally Certified Cock Sucker). Warning mere state certification may not be enough! Demand proof of USFCCS. ☎ 6418.

I Could Write A Book!
Tired of phony California attitude? HIV+, 5'11", 145#, mustache, sense of humor, good heart, spiritual. Health & mind getting better. Seeks friends of??? Please be sincere!!! ☎ 6419.

Best Friend
HIV+, top, 5'8", 135#, 45, brn/hzl, mustache, strong character, quick witted is looking for a stocky HIV+ bottom who is passionate, loyal, and independent. Call me if you want to share adventures. ☎ 6420.

Leather Partner
Submissive, hot, leather bottom, ISO booted leather top for SM, as well as cuddling, romance, and long/short weekend trips. ☎ 6421.

Love Buddy Wanted
WM, 44, 5'9", 160, brown/brown, furry, POZ, (nature & art are my spiritual resource), seeks down to earth, hip & hairy cool Daddy with strong lust for life and it's sensual pleasures (LTR?). ☎ 6422.

1 GAM or GHM Submissive Wntd
Companionship & sensuous play. Me: 30, beefy, bld/bl, masc, caring, experienced. Turn-offs: sex-only relationship; leather-uniforms; bars. Turn-ons: authentic, imperfect persons; monogamy. Please be around 18-26. Limits respected. Inexperienced OK. ☎ 6423.

Handsome Muscular Italian
GWM, 38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times. Seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 6424.

Are You A Trim Hirsute?
39, 6', 170#, HIV+, milk-man has a 8" cut, downward-sloping hose ready to milk with big head down your throat. I sit back, relax while you slowly milk it dry. ☎ 6425.

HIV+ Asian Artist Sks Soulmate
Goodlooking 40yo sks GWM & GAM, 30-45 yo. I'm 5'6", 130#, very muscular. Enjoy movies, theater, books and outdoor activities. You must be intelligent, loving, goodlooking w/same interests. ☎ 6426.

Black Male Sks White Boyfriend
Gdlkng GBM, 31, 6', 195#, med built, sincere, honest, nice personality sking gdlkng GWM (Top), 27-35, w/nice personality is sincere, honest, nice body. Sking someone in San Jose area or surrounding areas. Must be masculine acting and clean for LTR. ☎ 6427.

Black Man Short Dreads
Beard, 40, 6'1", HIV-, sks friends. Musician, music teacher, masseur & gardener. ND/NS/NDr. Vegetarian, into spiritual practices & simple living. I live in the foothills of Mendocino county. Visit SF occasionally. Not looking for sex buddy. ☎ 6428.

Need Mature Buttfucker N Lover
Manly, any looks; demand my love, trim body—5'6", 140#, 40's, HIV-, role play, tight ass, eager to please you. Light drink, etc. OK. ☎ 6429.

A Good Guy Seeks Same
Decent, honest, stable guy, love outdoors, working out, romance, old-fashioned values, 26, GAM, 5'8", 135#, ISO similar good guy, GWM, 23-30. ☎ 6430.

Romance In This Lifetime
Attractive African-American male, 6', 155#, toned body, great smile ISO long-term love affair with dreamy, sexy, healthy, smart gay San Franciscan male. Romance in this lifetime can be ours! ☎ 6431.

Lay Back And Enjoy
Attractive GBM, 40's, HIV-, 5'10", 163#, sweet dick seeks GWM, 50 to 65, to lay back & enjoy love made to his big dick, 7 1/2" to 9", for hours. The best, you will ever have. ☎ 6432.

I Like Short Men
Your 5'6" to 5'8", 30 to 40's, fun loving and man of color. Jim, BM, 43, 6'1", 170#, handsome, hung, top. Let's talk. ☎ 6433.

Here I Am Just For You!
Professional type goodlooking GWM, 40's, seeks same, Height/weight proportioned. Any age. HIV-. Let us make it for friendship for now. Get to know each other through companionship. Be serious, give friendship a real try. ☎ 6504.

Got A Rod! Catch A Pisces
Bottom, HIV+, HM, 27, 5'5", 170#, fun, sincere, cute, pierced, tattooed, seeks masculine top w/HM, 25-35, for cuddling, kissing, movies and more. ☎ 6505.

Intensive Cardiac Therapy
GAM, professional, inoculated with good looks and contagious smile needs TLC. Prescriptions for treatment to include a sincere man who is well-grounded, open-minded and fun. Report symptoms of heart palpitations STAT. Further intensive care may be needed. ☎ 6506.

Sincere-Honest-Loveable & Cute
SGWM, early 40's, goodlooking, easygoing: 6' tall, dk blnd., blue eyes; seeking guy under 36. SGWM, clean-cut, humorous, communicative, handsome, and open to a relationship. Blend talents for mutual good. ☎ 6507.

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM, 5'7", 130#, begs to worship masc, verbal topman, over 40, wgt proportion. Cauc or Asian. ☎ 6508.

Seeking Attractive Asian
I'm goodlooking WM, 41yrs, HIV-, 5'6", 140#, enjoys golf, travel, bowling and quiet times. Seeks Asian male, 18-37, weight in proportion, for friendship and possible LTR. ☎ 6509.

Is Yours The "Prick Perfect"?
Lucky you! But for me, any dick will do that shoots a real mouthful to savor/swallow. So I've become a world class cocksucker. enjoy the difference! Sooner is better. ☎ 6510.

Hot Man Seeks Mate Into JO
Attractive, adventurous, GWM, 41, 5'8", 142#, slim, muscular body, buzz cut, short beard, hung 8 1/2", fuzzy butt, NS, HIV+, and healthy. Your into JO, nudity, 35-50, in shape, interested in relationship. Let's connect. ☎ 6511.

Handsome Dad Type
Straight looking 50, 5'10", 190#, healthy HIV ISO sidekick over 353. Be masculine & mostly bottom for uncut fun. Many interests. Equal opportunity emp. ☎ 6512.

Handsome Top
Classic good looks, fit, blond/blue, 41, HIV-, successful, confident, dynamite personality, athletic, passionate. Looking for similar (bottom) 32-40, attractive, masculine, in good shape. S 6513.

Asian/Latin Boyfriend Wanted
WM, 44, 5'9", 155, HIV+, loves fun, outdoors, dogs, music, cooking, movies, TV, reading, home, fireplace, hiking, bicycle, star gazing, staying healthy, laughing, having sex, sleeping, seeks happy friend, companion, partner. ☎ 6514.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Deep Throat Seeks Trophy Cocks
Eager masculine WM, 40's, fit, attractive, needs heavy equipment for oral scenes your way at your place. Age, race unimportant. Verbal A+. Be serious and seriously hung. Will travel. ☎ 6326.

Sensuous Touch
Attractive, experienced masseur, tall, great body, 30's, with creative hands and table wants to exchange healing, sensuous massage with goodlooking, well-fit men, 20-40, with some experience. Group OK. ☎ 6327.

Let's Go Camping
Seeking camping buddies for weekend excursions. I'm 6'1", 180#, muscular, masculine, 44yo. You be muscular, masculine, 35-55yo. Summer is here. Let's go. ☎ 6328.

Looking For
In charge guy who can administer proper discipline and respect. Will do all I can to obey and please. My age 52, and slim. Please call. ☎ 6329.

CHP LT Motor Officer
New to gay scene. must be discreet. me: HIV-, well hung, handsome, 6'9", seeks facsimile, tall boots and uniform preferred. ☎ 6330.

Att.: Boys
Dad, 50 years, wants well-built W or L boys to 30, any size, for bondage, massage, bathroom procedures, spankings, other control rituals. No blind dates, we meet first. ☎ 6331.

In Shape Handsome Bottom
Looking for a man to occasionally enjoy an excellent blow job and then fuck my tight ass. 3-ways considered. I'm Caucasian, 6', 175#, HIV+, deep voice, big dicked and masculine. Ride me and squirt. Oh yeah.... ☎ 6339.

Hot Stuff & Outrageous Men
Hello my name is Butch, I am looking for Hot-Daddy top man, hair + age 38 to 52. Let's do it. If you live in Palo Alto to Santa Clara. me: brn, blue, 245, 6', 32. ☎ 6332.

Half-Cocked & Oral Only
Attractive, masculine, non-scene, not promiscuous WM, 30, 6'2", 195#, brn/blue seeks cute, younger male, self-respecting, (any race) for adventure and oral play. Under 27yo only. ☎ 6333.

On Your Knees Suck Boy
WM, 40's, HIV-, average build verbal needs regular obedient head at your SF place. You are HIV-, healthy, slim or muscular, hungry, deep throat cum lover into taking orders. ☎ 6334.

Soccer Boy
WM, 22, soccer stud bottom hunting for a top. Love foreplay, wrestling and cut cocks. I'm 5'10", 155#, blk/brown, Latin/Asian a plus, 18-25 a must. HIV- East Bay. ☎ 6335.

Small Guys
Short? Lt Wt? Submissive?-Dominant, safe, GWM, 5'7", 145#, HIV-, 40's, likes erotic butt play, spanking, face-sitting, humiliation, sexy underwear trips. Lt B&D, training welcome. Limits respected. ☎ 6336.

Top Wants Bottom
White top, 53, 6', 155#, brn/brn, glasses, 9" cock seeks hot young white or Latino bottoms under 40 who want to get fucked by older man. ☎ 6337.

Wanted: Straight Or Bi Men
Goodlooking GWM, 40, 6 ft, 190#, and HIV+, seeks other goodlooking bi, or straight acting men for friendhsip and more. Must be goodlooking and between 25-40. NS/ND, light drinker. ☎ 6338.

Clean Enough To Eat
I'm 36, HIV-, handsome, husky, oral GWM and your hair's still wet from the shower when my tongue hits the spot. Prefer smooth, cute, masculine, younger totally healthy dude. ☎ 6340.

Hot Serious Bareback Fuckers
If you want a hot juicy/wet cum fuck w/a well fucked ass 1 on 1 or gang bang...GBM, 39, 5'11", 146#, goatee, shaved head. ISO men ht/wt/prop, masc, & serious only. Call now! ☎ 6341.

Wanted: Big Cock On Lean HIV-
Guy. We: love slow, intense suck sessions. Me: handsome, tall, football player type shoulders. I worship big dick (8ish & up) with right guy: upbeat, smart, warm, laughs. ☎ 6342.

Aggressive Asian Men
Submissive GWM, 41, 6', 165#, loves to meet Oriental males who are dominant and enjoy fucking and oral sex. ☎ 6343.

Once A Week Partner
GWM, handsome, 6', 38, 170#, surfer, athletic, HIV-, hairy, not into scene, seeks smooth hole to deep tongue. You a jock in shape and very clean. ☎ 6344.

7 Hr Suck Slut
Long drk blond hair, 5'10", broad shoulders, 145#, long slow and swallows long dicks preferred. Loves to party friendly non-drinker. Gentle late 30's. ☎ 6345.

Sexy Italian Seeks Playmate
GWM, 40, 5'10". 185#, br (bald), br, very hairy, goatee, well hung, top-pish in LTR. Sks discreet GWM in similar situation. Hairy & vers. A+. ☎ 6346.

Leather Btm Seeks Leather Top
37yo, 5'10", 170#, br/br, mustached, 8", in great shape, hairy verbal safe bottom seeks ass slapping food time w/verbal leather top man. ☎ 6347.

SF Dad Wants Playmate
GWM, bearded, 60, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, NS/ND seeks trim GWM/GBM, 35-50, for erotic touch, play, JO, facial hair a plus. ☎ 6348.

GWM ISO Advnturous/Kinky GAM
Nice, attractive, fit, NS, GWM, 31, 5'11", 170#, brn/blue, clean shaven seeks in shape smooth NS, clean shaven, GAM bottom for WS, and teach me to be a good fisting top. ☎ 6349.

Hot Car Hot Vacation Hot Times
30 year old hot Italian male, looking for white hot male under 30 to travel to Mexico in red sports car from June 13 to 20. ☎ 6350.

Serious Playmate
GWM, 50ish & cute, HIV- 7" cock, 115#, blue, short balding hair, stache. Like to be FF, BT, fuck my hairy ass. Spanked, sucking big cocks, 3-ways OK. I lay back & you rape me your way. Age & race unimportant. No quickies or body odor. Explore my fantasies. ☎ 6351.

Group Gang Bang
Attractive GWM, threesome, professional, athletic, height/weight proportionate, between the ages of 25-45, are looking for a select group of men with similar characteristics. Be fantasy oriented. HIV- & versatile. ☎ 6435.

Goodlooking Oral Bottom
In shape oral bottom looking for some BD fun. 32 yr, GWM, 6', 170#, muscular/swimmer's build. Clean shaven, smooth and well hung, looking to meet GWM top, 30-36 yr, into safe BD play. ☎ 6436.

Hard Master ISO Obedient Boy
Demanding Daddy late 40's, fit, gym toned, imaginative requires fit boy pref with muscles late 20's onward for strict training incl. discipline sane safe consensual play. Must be non-smoker. ☎ 6437.

Just Shut-Up And Ride!
32, WM, 5'10", 200#, blond/blue muscle hunk wants goodlooking, masculine men to pump me full of squirt. —Anytime. Call now. ☎ 6438.

Special Young Man Sought
By sexy, mature GWM, 73, 5'8", 165#, for lots of hopefully ongoing exciting times. You are gdlkg, 18-40, HIV-, and enjoys doing it with an older man. ☎ 6439.

When I'm In Bed With Someone I
Like to roll them over on their stomach & look at their butt, touch, squeeze, massage, tickle, probe, spank & screw it. Me: oral top, attrac, GWM, 46, 6'5", football build, 250#. You: attrac, GWM, 18-35, slim, smth/mod. body hair, nice buns. ☎ 6440.

Chubby Chaser Scores Big Time
I am handsome big bear. Funny & humorous. Sensitive & warm. Kind & gentle. Likes skinny rubber people who are learning to shave now. South San Francisco, near airport. ☎ 6441.

Plunge, Pump & Unload
Italian whore, 44, 6', 200#, goatee stud—horny all the time. Pound my manhole & empty your balls deep in my pussy. Need your cock & cum! ☎ 6442.

Latino Men
With big cocks cum pound my tasty white boy butt. Hard & raw. Will respond to all. 28yo, 150#. ☎ 6443.

Public Service Announcement
Back when most guys wanted their cocks sucked, too few suckers. now that most guys have become suckers, too few suckees. Oh well. For your next blow job call. ☎ 6444.

Body And Soul
Happiness is the key part of my life that I hold true. Versatile and attractive black man wants to experience pure affection. ☎ 6445.

East Bay Pleaser Ready & Able
To make you explode! Local tops (or wannabes) wanted by slim, smooth 40's Oakland WM for really hot oral and anal sessions. On going service for easy-access, attitudeless, friendly, fun, or??? ☎ 6446.

Hot Sweaty Sex Only
Very cute, white bottom buy, 24, 5'11", 160#, seeks discreet encounters with a dominant, top in-shape man with his own place for hot sex. Call! ☎ 6447.

Hot Animal Sex
Goodlooking butt boy, 30, 5'11", slim build, ISO fit tops w/ 7"+ for fun, maybe more. HIV+, couples OK, any race, 30-45, can be vers. ☎ 6448.

Bttm Boy Seeks Fun, Fantasy &
Friends. Smooth, 33, masculine, goodlooking, blue eyes, 5'11", 29 in waist looking for other young guys. Goodlooking, hung tops with an extra sense of adventure. Role play etc. ☎ 6449.

Big Meat Seeks Relief!
Your mouth or tight ass is the perfect place for this hot, handsome, uncut boyish top. You are in shape, submissive and want some fun!! ☎ 6521.

Dad Seeks Son
Masculine, in shape, Dad, 48, 6', 180#, seeks son for anal exploration, light SM, BD, cuddle afterwards. ☎ 6527.

You Deserve It!
Hndsm Asian BB w/defined muscular physique, smooth skin needs expert mouth, responsive ass 4 his pleasure. Want to get tied up & used senseously, mercilessly? Open to other game ideas! You: adventurous, eager & cute. ☎ 6450.

Hot Nasty Boys Only
For extended butt play. UB: 25-35 yo, GWM/GLM, good shape, clean shaven. Like taking it in the rear. Me: 40yo, GWM, good shape, 5'6", 145#, hot top. ☎ 6451.

Bttm Sks Probing Top Man
Handsome bodybuilder, 35yo, 160#, lean naturally hairless sks probing, plowing, gentle handball. Top man should be bright, attractive, fit and skillful. ☎ 6452.

Smth Btm Boy Wnts 2 Srve 3-5+
I'm 5'10 1/2", 170#, brn hair, blue eyes, submissive yet masculine, like role play. Open for new things to meet handsome in shape guys. Dominant look 30's or younger. ☎ 6454.

Looking GLM/GBM For Hot Times
GWM, 44 years young (look 30's), blue/brown, 6', 148#, slim-build, gym-toned, goatee, top & HIV-. Seeking GLM/GBM, 21-50, for playmates & safe sex.. ☎ 6455.

Oakland/Merrit Area
Looking for top guy
(Latin/White/Black) Evening/weekend quickies/or plus. I'm HIV-, 40's, WM, average 5'11", 155#, brn/blu. ☎ 6456.

Sex First, Talk Later
39, 5'11", 170#, brn/brn, goatee, hairy body and already in a relationship. Looking for additional buddies for passionate kissing, sucking & fucking. Be in-shape, 25-45. Day-time/some nights. Singles/Couples OK. ☎ 6457.

Butthole Rocks
With your pounding fists—goodlooking man with fresh white flesh seeks man with a beat—long and sensuous preferred. ☎ 6458.

Lay Back For Oral Service
SF, 45, WM is looking for 28-37, HIV-, attractive, hairy, well bit, cut endowed men to service at my place. Available evenings, smokers OK. No pagers. ☎ 6459.

Hung Big
Hot 6', 35, 160#, goodlooking all-American collegiate-type w/gym toned body. Hung big seeks goodlooking guys hung as big (or bigger?). ☎ 6460.

Sensuous Cock Play-Weekdays
Seeking playmate! Kissing, stroking, oral, ball licking—just giving & receiving pleasure! Discreet, 48, HIV-, stash, nice guy, trim, sensitive nipples & well endowed. Call for shared pleasure! Uncut A+++. ☎ 6515.

Full Service Pump
Warm, gentle, affectionate, nice looking, GWM, 6'1", 165#, 60, HIV-, fully natural bareback top seeking gentle, caring (versatile) bottom, for friendship/LTR. Age, race unimportant. Call. ☎ 6516.

Goodlooking Uncut Top
Classic uncut dick on a lean, trim, healthy, HIV-, 40's, GWM looking for some attention from a hungry, non-encumbering bottom. Prefer early evenings/days. ☎ 6517.

Hot Man
Seeks sizzling boy. WM, 5'11", 165#, wants fun with Asian/Latino, 25-35, slim, must speak fluent English. Dinners, movies, dancing, travel, like cats, 60-70's music. NS/ND, light drinker, OK. ☎ 6518.

No Gag Reflex—I Swear!!
Zone out for comprehensive oral relief (wink, wink) from this GWM with no gag reflex and hyper salivary throat. 6/170/40's/hair-challenged, big-grinned, big-hearted, and fairly big-brained nice fella. And welcome back, returnees! ☎ 6529.

A1 Oral Service Delivered
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to guys who dig getting sucked off. Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation. ☎ 6519.

Sperm Drinker
Asian and Latin cum especially swallowed. My soft deep throat is your sperm receptacle and also craves your hot piss. Call now for same day or night call back. ☎ 6520.

Open For Business
GWM, 48, oral-anal bottom seeks top for entry. Dicks or fists welcome. HIV-, need to learn to be submissive. You can do it! ☎ 6522.

ISO: Black Meat
Italian whore stud, 44, 6', 195#, goatee, lives in the Castro in search of black studs to service late at night. Cum and get off! ☎ 6523.

If You Like A Hard Ride
I've got 8 inches that will be a perfect fit handsome top, in shape, hairy chest, goatee wants to pump butt & more. hot bottoms, let's get it in! ☎ 6524.

Endless Oral
Masculine, healthy, HIV+, GWM, 44, 6', 195#, gym, ht/wt prop., bald/buzz, hung, videos, Polk area, seeks similar for mutual expert oral. NS. Poss LTR. ☎ 6525.

Str8/Bi Curious? WM 18-22?
Smooth chest? Kick it with me! Students/Jocks call now! Santa Cruz Beach Party? Rick. ☎ 6526.

Nordic, Northern European
Featured muscle guys wanted by hard body fuck enthusiast (top) for sex events. Minimum body fat demanded. ☎ 6528.

FETISHES

Filthy Street Bare Feet
GWM, 29, slim, into natural barefoot lifestyle: always barefoot, everywhere. Wants similar guys with tough, filthy feet for barefoot outings on grimy streets. Will worship your filthy feet; mutual OK. ☎ 6352.

Feet Dark Socks And More
Attractive Latino, 30, 5'11", 190#, HIV-, Virgo, size 12, nice feet. Would like to meet Latinos or Whites under 32, NS/ND, into foot fetish. Serious only. No lies. ☎ 6353.

Hung Top W/Underwear Fetish
Wanted by muscular bottom with hungry ass and nice tits. I'll wear anything from nylons to leather, whatever makes you want to fuck me for hours. 5'3", shaved head, goatee. ☎ 6354.

You Must Love Leather
If you love wearing chaps, leather pants, vests, engineer/military boots, while having sex, then this goodlooking blond, 42 (looks 30), wants to meet you. East Bay Concord/Walnut Creek. ☎ 6355.

Get The Spanking You Deserve
GWM, 40's, gives old-fashioned over the knee discipline with my hand, paddle & belt on your pants, shorts & bare butt. Pants-down corporal punishment delivered not abuse. Any age OK. ☎ 6461.

Muscle Worship
WM, late 40's, seeks muscular guys of any size into pumping up, posing, flexing and being admired. Especially like defined biceps, hot pecs. Asians a plus. ☎ 6462.

Raunchy Bitch Boy
Seeking dominant, masculine Daddies/Leatherman to train nasty hardcore toilet mouth. Cigar smoking Masters to feed & use and abuse me. ☎ 6463.

Parade And Flaunt
Older gentleman wants a young beauty to pose for him stark naked with stiff hard penis rampant. ☎ 6534.

Submissive Wanted Gay Or Bi
Expert dominant will train and reward in shape submissive/if you please. Short or long leash. Muscular, 45, 6'1", goodlooking. If this isn't you scene, don't bother. ☎ 6464.

Hungry Hands Seek Hungry Hole
FF top, new to scene, can't get enough. Me: GWM, 6'3", 155#, 25, shaved head, stach, goatee. you: any race or body type. Bald/balding, hairy, facial hair A+. ☎ 6465.

Hot Guy W/Toe Ring Sks Barefoot
Buddy. Masculine, tan, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV-, craves reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, massaging, naked body closeness, safe JO fantasies. Light odor, toughened soles OK. Further friendship possible. ☎ 6466.

Spanking Needed
Visiting X-college football jock needs bare ass spanking, you an experienced TOP, please slide your hands over my fat, smooth ass and remove my jock, I enjoy humiliation, fucking optional, not required. ☎ 6467.

Have A Foot Or Leg Injury?
Are you in a cast, brace, bandages, medical shoe, crutches, wheelchair or just have big swollen feet? Age and race unimportant. Me: 24, 5'8", 158#, goodlooking. ☎ 6468.

Obey Me
ISO slave, who lives only to serve me. Slave must be devoted 18-39, GWM, HIV-, in-shape, clean shaven, into whatever may please my whims. The Master is 32, GWM, HIV-, 5'8". ☎ 6469.

Bare Butt Spankings
So Cal boy, 31, 6'2", 185#, frequently in SF, seeks similar for stern discipline sessions, give and get. Not into bondage. ☎ 6470.

Foreskin-Got IT? Love To Play
With it, pull, tug, chew on it. Put my tongue or finger in it & circle your cockhead. Got any cheese? Looking for wkday playtime. Me: 5'11", trim, 40's, HIV-, nice cut cock for you to play with. Call. ☎ 6530.

Hairy In Shape Fighter
I'm WM, 5'10", 172#, 49, HIV-, looking for others into long sweaty fight scenes. I get into punching, hair pulling, slapping, tough safe man to man combat. ☎ 6531.

Feel The Difference!
GWM will shave your crotch, balls, ass & more! Fun, safe experienced. All ages, all eth. origins. Let's talk! ☎ 6532.

Show Off Those Hard-Ons
JO, show off hard, walk around with it out. We meet at different, sleazy places around the city. If you like to hang out with a boner, give us a call. ☎ 6533

Need A Hot Lick
Truly an asshole eater first, w/rim chair. Me: Hisp, hot, attr, 5'11", 165#, 40. You: hot, in shape, to 45, w/puckering hole & lips. ☎ 6535.

Medical Top Sought
By btm, I have operating room, table enema gear, restraints, caths, NG tubes, sounds, rubber & more. HIV-, NS, 5'9", 178#, clean cut, 40's, very discreet. ☎ 6536.

Fit To Be Tied!
Slave seeks experienced Leather Master for bondage and S&M. Am 39, masculine, good looks and build. No drugs! ☎ 6537.

HIV+ WM East Bay
Seeks other HIV+ guys for mutual oral and jack off sessions. Any race, under 35. Shaved and cut a plus. ☎ 6538.

Big Bears & Cigars
WM, 35, looking for smokin' bear buddy to explore some man to man action, raunch, WS, etc. ☎ 6539.

In Search Of Dog-Slave
For ownership, obedience training, collaring, bondage, SM, etc. Prefer young, small and slim or muscular, short hair breed. ☎ 6540.

Daytime Asshole Eater!
"Get your asshole eaten by a pro." ☎ 6541.

Bondage Novice Seeks Master
To instruct in the art of restraint. Me: 6', 180#, bl/bl-gr, average build, eager for hands-on teaching form wrist/ankles to mummification. You: 30+, experienced. ☎ 6542.

COUPLES

Let's Suck Cock
Are you 30-55? HIV-? Non-smoker? Two hung beefy guys in their 40's, HIV-, seek suck buddies, tit players. Hairy, stashes, balding a plus. ☎ 6356.

2 For 3 Way Fun
Goodlooking gay black male seeks wild dominate 1 or 2 for 3 way adventure. Cute a must. ☎ 6471.

Hung Couple
Two goodlooking 36yo WMs, hung big (8+ and 9+) seek others for group action. Prefer in shape and hung guys. Tops a plus. ☎ 6543.

Submissive Slave Wanted
GWC, 45/43, ISO sub-slave, 26-40, ht/wt proportional, total submission. Pos IL ☎ 6544.

OTHER

Hi: A Polite, Extended & Sensual
Conversation is required of you. Then I flog you with a leather belt. Any age, sex, race. Sincerely G.C. ☎ 6357.

Sk 1 HIV-/Hung/35-45/Good Guy
GWM, 5'11", 168, athletic, 8" thick, cut, attractive, intelligent, in non sexual LTR with best friend, seeks non promiscuous, masculine, honest, upbeat guy, healthy life, fit body, similar dick, safe fun friends. ☎ 6358.

Baseball Fans
Are any baseball fans reading this ad? I haven't met many fans since I moved to SF. Please call if you'd like to go to Giants and/or A's games. ☎ 6472.

Well Beaten Boys...
Are good boys. English former headmaster flogs wicked boys in a respectable environment. Upper Haight & Russian River. ☎ 6473.

Tom of Finland Wrestling!
6', 180#, muscular seeks friendly guys to wrestle. Clean technique. Nobody gets hurt. Fun guy to wrestle. I look like Tarzan. Jockstrap or nude. Scared? I'll let ya win. Lessons too. ☎ 6474.

Workout Partner
Attractive GWM, 30, 6'2", 190, blond hair & green eyes looking for workout partner for running, basketball or weight lifting. ☎ 6545.

Heavily Tattooed White Boy
Into 4X4's, classic rock, T-shirts/jeans kinda guy. Straight acting, closeted. Looking for regular guys to romp or just hang with. 35, 6', 175#, straight edge. No drunks, drugs, bar people. ☎ 6546.

Hot Latin Bottom Boy
I'm a 25 year old, 5'11", 155#. Love to be fucked for 45-50, big guys only. Daytime. Call me. ☎ 6547.

Wrestle With Pride Party 6/28
CA's hottest toughest grapplers gather in private gym with ring for hours of sweaty no-holds-barred rough-house action Saturday 6/28. No $— all wrestlers/fighters welcome—no "spectators." ☎ 6548.

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- Seeking Relationship ☐
- Seeking Adventure ☐
- Lesbian ☐
- Fetishes ☐
- Couples ☐
- Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

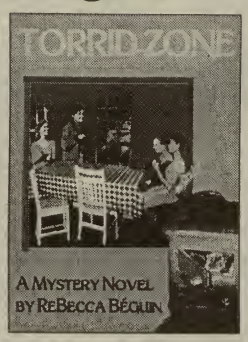
Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Compelling conundrum

by Deborah Peifer

Torrid Zone by ReBecca Béguin; New Victoria, $10.95



ReBecca Béguin is the author of the very fine historical novels *Hers Was the Sky*, *Runway at Eland Springs*, and *In Unlikely Places*. My experience with writers of historical fiction is that they tend to fall short when they attempt to write contemporary novels. Béguin's latest effort, however, is a happy exception to that contention. *Torrid Zone* combines, very effectively, a present-day mystery with a 20-year-old accusation.

Ida has been working on a Vermont horse ranch since her lesbian-separatist-back-to-the-land commune failed some years before. She spends most of her time alone, with occasional interactions with Gem, her lover who lives out of state. When Gem asks Ida to provide a safe space for a student who is being stalked by a rapist, Ida's solitary world is invaded. Viv, the student, decides that she might as well work on a research paper concerning lesbian collectives while she is in hiding, so her presence disturbs not only Ida's present but her past as well.

Béguin does a great job of combining Ida's reverential memories with Viv's somewhat skeptical take on the communards and their attempts to make a new way of living. The opposition of these two views provides perspective on a fascinating period of lesbian history. We learn that the collective collapsed when one of its members was murdered, and the power of the unsolved crime is painfully evident in the damage done to all of the collective members and their sense of themselves. Was the killer one of them? The author creates layers upon layers of mysteries as she explores the destructive power of a decades-old accusation.

Don't think, however, that Béguin's interest is only in the past. Viv's decision to interview other members of the collective provides us with a look at the ways of being a lesbian in the '90s. The contemporary mystery concerning the stalker is vividly and believably presented as well. *Torrid Zone* is a conundrum wrapped in an enigma, and the resolution of its mysteries is hugely satisfying. More than mere mystery, however, *Torrid Zone* is a history of the last 20 years of the lesbian nation, peopled with compelling characters and filled with lots of extras. ▼

Future shock

by Deborah Peifer

Exit to Reality by Edith Forbes; Seal Press, $24

I was so disappointed when I realized that Edith Forbes' latest novel, *Exit to Reality*, was science fiction. Forbes is, after all, the author of the astonishing *Alma Rose* and the brilliant *Nowle's Passing*, but surely she couldn't write a sci-fi novel that would capture my interest. Other than Katherine Forrest's *Daughters of a Coral Dawn*, sci-fi just doesn't work for me. Having read the novel, I can only say, oh me of little faith. *Exit to Reality* is a triumph. Forbes creates an absolutely believable and completely horrifying future when death has been conquered and life is no longer worth living.

In the 29th century of Forbes' future world, which she reveals with enough information to keep things interesting but not so much that we are bogged down in unnecessary facts, humans live forever, with an occasional regeneration to keep themselves up to par. The billions of humans on earth (1.7 billion on the California coast alone) have robots, Maternal Operations Modules and Paternal Oversight Programs (Mom and Pop), to fulfill the assumed psychological need for parents because regeneration wipes out connections with the past.

Romance is, well, not so hot, as when Lydian, our hero, has a date with Jeff. "We greeted each other with a perfunctory sexual coupling, then Jeff said he hoped I'd had a nice time in Paris and went to the mealspace to brew himself a cup of camomile tea. He often made such gestures of helpfulness, to demonstrate to Mom that he did not take her services for granted, even though she was a machine. My Mom, with even greater politeness, had never spoken her resentment of his intrusion into the one small corner of the house that was her exclusive domain." When Lydian meets Proteus while noodling on-line, his promise of exciting new experiences is just what she needs to break out of her eternal rut. An instantaneous trip to Paris on B-MET, and she is on her way to adventure.

In this brave new world, there are no children, and that has chilling implications for life on this planet. "Human history ended in 2296, when the very last death was officially recorded, and everyone who would ever be born, had been. It isn't kings and queens and politicians and businessmen who drive history. It's children. All those new little minds coming into being and looking around at what's already here and figuring out how to add to it or change it." Without children, without birth and death, nothing changes. Eternal life becomes an eternity of sameness.

Sameness is not what you'll experience when you read *Exit to Reality*. Just about every time you think you've figured out where Forbes is going with her fascinating and provocative tale, she takes your expectations and gives them a good shaking. To her great credit, however, not once did any plot twist seem dishonest or the result of a writer's desperation.

Wondering what will happen next transforms this novel into a real page-turner, but as with Forbes' earlier works, the writing will make you want to reread paragraphs for the pleasure of their exquisite form. *Exit to Reality* is astonishing, superbly written, utterly compelling, completely believable, and absolutely unpredictable. It will entertain you, and make you question every thing you thought you knew about life and death. Don't miss it. ▼



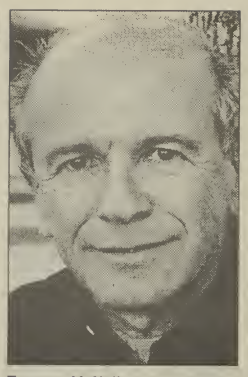
Out There

◀ page 35

in print had there been something to say, but since we had already told readers about the new *coquilles Saint-Jacques* dish at Zuni, we felt we'd sufficiently covered Last Week in San Francisco. Besides, we just learned from a press release faxed to our office on May 29 by **Michael Colbruno**, head barker at the 49ers camp and erstwhile news editor for a defunct fish wrap, that the *B.A.R.* isn't the leading lesbian and gay weekly in SF anyway, so what does it matter what we think? The Best Queer Rag status now apparently belongs to the *San Francisco Bay Times*, though why is less than clear. Wasn't it just two weeks ago that Pithy received yet *another* desperate phone call from a hysterical *Bay Times* freelancer complaining about not being paid by the paper's publisher? These ongoing tales of **overseer stinginess**, in addition to stories of **hysterical histrionics** going on in the workplace, don't begin to suggest qualities of leadership to us. Colbruno's effusion makes more sense — the Machiavellian kind — in light of the *Bay Times*' backing of the 49ers Stadium deal. Sycophantic logrolling by any other name.

Love! Valour! Opera!

The San Francisco Opera is gearing up for its summer production of *Madama Butterfly* at the Orpheum Theatre, but the really big news at SFO is going on behind the scenes. We've heard that a certain **handsome young composer** who toils as a publicist for the company may soon be getting a ticket to ride out of flakville.



Terrence McNally

We don't have all the details just yet, but insiders say this musical prodigy has so captivated certain singers with his music-making that SFO potentates are thinking about dropping a commission in his lap.

We would have passed this off as just so much gibble-gabble had we not heard from a little bird that Handsome Composer has just taken a leave of absence from SFO and that he's recently been in touch with opera-loving **Terrence McNally**, who has reportedly expressed interest in writing a libretto.

If SFO could wrangle a commission out of McNally, the company would not only be putting an enormously interesting feather in its rather dusty cap, it would also be performing an unprecedented lavender trifecta — the third libretto for an SFO-commissioned opera to be penned by a gay writer, the first two being **Philip Littell**'s *The Dangerous Liaisons* (music by **Andre Previn**) and **Tony Kushner**'s *Saint Cecilia* (music by **Bobby McFerrin**).

Octavio — *please!*

Seems everyone is chattering away these days about the death of camp, but for the life of us we can't figure out why. Didn't anyone read *SF Chronicle* critic **Octavio Roca**'s review of **Liza Minnelli**'s show at Davies Hall last week? There's enough camp in these several ludicrous paragraphs to keep the flames of ritual idolatry alive well into the next century and beyond. "When Liza Minnelli stepped onto the stage she seemed wrapped in a rainbow," Roca expulsed, "dressed first in a revealing shift striped in every color. She wore hoop diamond earrings and a million-dollar smile. She looked resplendent."

Later the critic oozed, "Here was an adored singer blessed with a distinctive voice, a gift she knows exactly how to apply to a performing philosophy that is sadly rare on the American stage these days: the vanishing true art of pop." And finally: "Each melody was carried as if life depended upon it."

Of course, what really made this piece camp, instead of merely pathetic, was a *Chron* photo editor's supremely twisted but perfectly deft decision to accompany the piece with a picture of Minnelli that made her look like she'd just been hauled from a burning five-car pile-up.

Barking beauty

Otter Outrage was scarfing down his weight in free peanuts at the Mr. Lone Star '97 Contest on Memorial Day when he suddenly heard above the din, like a celestial choir, the dulcet tones of that notorious mistress of the planks,



Liza Minnelli

Sweet Lips. The 74-year-old Polkstrasse legend was one of eight entries in said contest (11 *had* signed up, and two absentees were rumored to be outside in a van doing things to each other that would make **Danielle Willis** blush) and was resplendent in a scarlet ensemble: red satin jacket, red leather pants, and a red nylon T-shirt that spelled out his name in silver glitter around the neck. A hole had been cut in the shirt to reveal La Lips' still surprisingly perky left nipple. When Sweet Lips took the stage (a sheet of plywood over the pool table) to join emcee **Danny Williams**, a chant went up from the well-lubricated late afternoon audience: "Sweet Lips, Sweet Lips, Sweet Lips!" The Czarina de Turk Street took it all in stride with a magisterial wave of her cane and delighted her fans with her answer to Williams' first question regarding her occupation: "I'm a hustler!" she barked.

Sweet Lips had to compete for the limelight with the ubiquitous **Jack Davis**, one of the contest judges, who was maintaining a hectic pace mending all the fences he could before the June 3 election. The always amazingly eclectic crowd at the Lone Star gave him a mixed reception, but the political consultant kept his chins up and good-naturedly took a lot of ribbing over his birthday party shenanigans. Emcee Williams broke the record for the most Jack Daniels jokes in a 90-minute stretch, and Otter couldn't help but observe that whenever the word "bottle" came up (which in a bar is fairly often), all eyes were on the curly-haired Davis, who seemed to redden a shade or two but nevertheless smiled, smiled, smiled!

Sweet Lips eventually lost the contest to the young, bearded, and beefy (6'4", 245 lbs.) **David Paul Rape** (pronounced "Rap"), but not before proclaiming to those assembled, "I love *all* fat people!" Although the Polk Rendezvous' favorite mixologist did have a mishap on the way home — she fell out of a car — she's fine now. Reached by phone at the PR, Sweet Lips wasn't at all bitter about her loss, confiding in Otter that she didn't remember "all that much" about the day's events. "I may run for **Mr. San Francisco Leather** next," she quipped. "You don't have to be so butch for that one."

Etcetera

Many thanks to **Heklina** of Trannyshack for clearing up that little mystery about **Eddie Murphy** in a recent issue of *Odyssey*. We knew he'd been boinking some girl/boy up here, but we didn't know it was **Timmy Spence.** Question: who gave whom the enema? ▼

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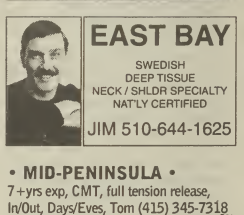
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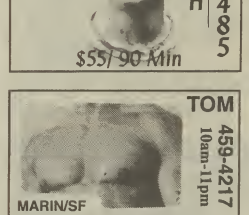
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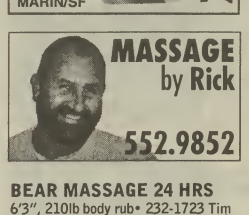
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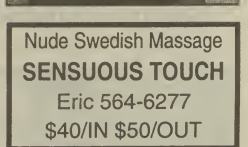
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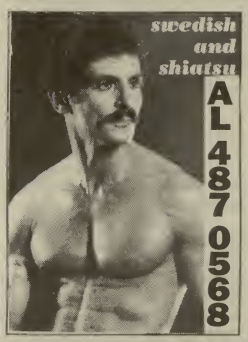
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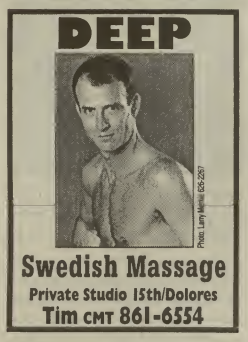
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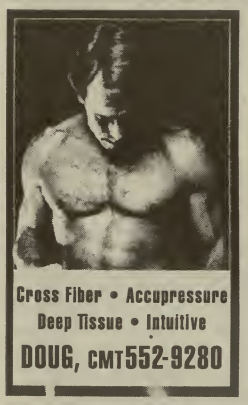
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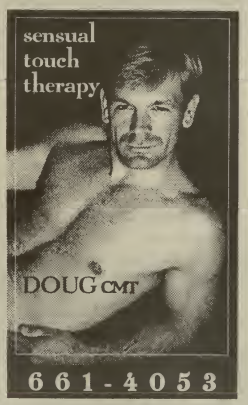
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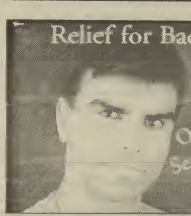
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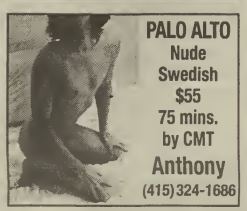


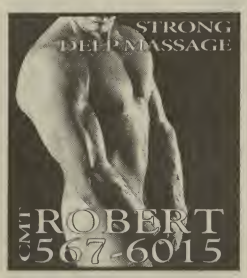
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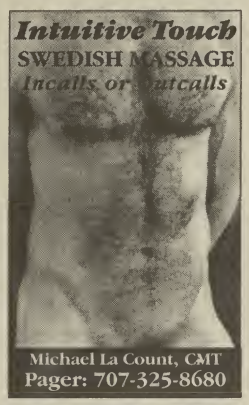








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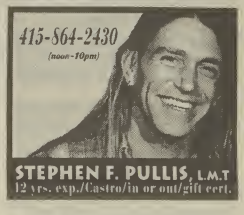


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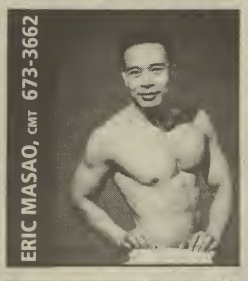
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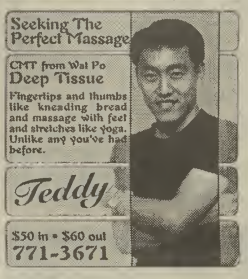
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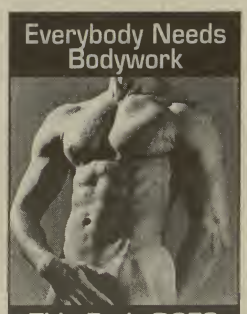
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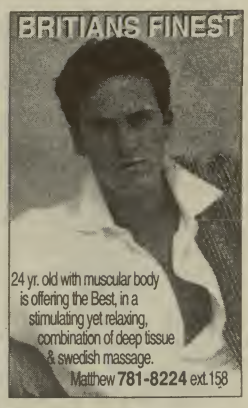


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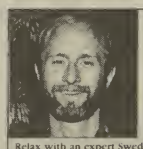




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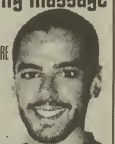
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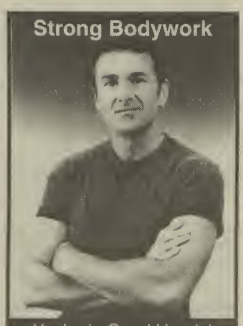


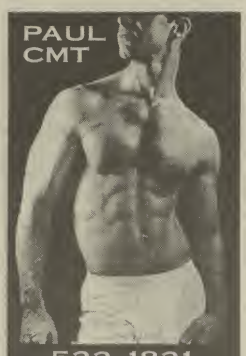
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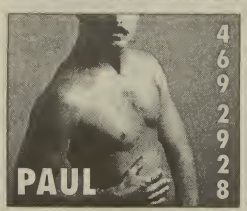


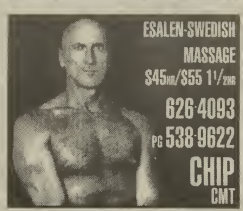
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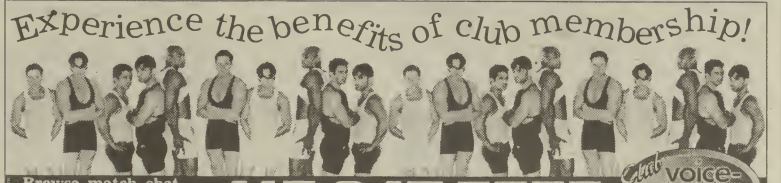
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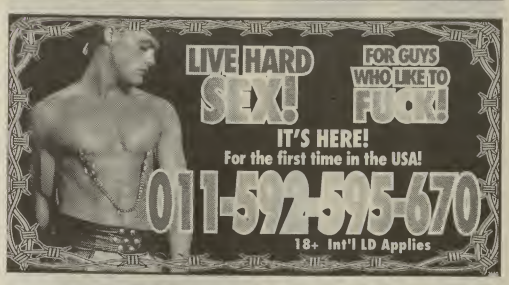
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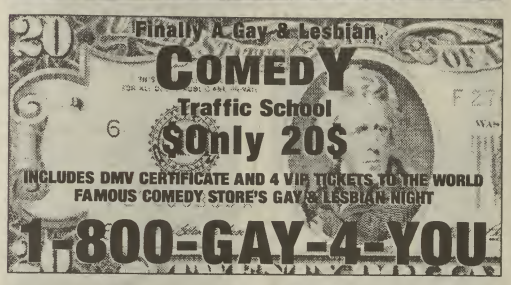
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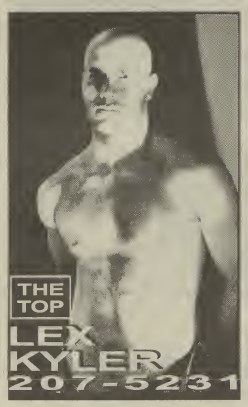
MODELS & ESCORTS

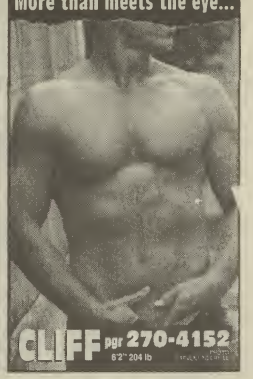
LEATHER KINK
LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS TAKING HIS TIME. TALL & BUILT. FULL PLAYROOM.
RICK 431-0959

XXX BROTHERS
25 & 27
JASON & DAVID 415 267-5906
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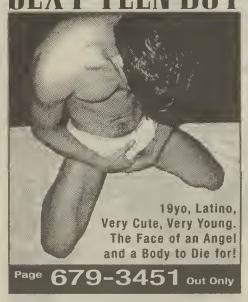
HOT LEATHER 3-WAY
2 Hot Porn Models into Leather Fantasies.
Top: 38yo 6'1" 210#, flat top, mustache, 7"uncut.
Bottom: 31yo 5'9", 160#, verst. beard, 8" cut.
Have Play space & Equipment
Scott 415 790-0902 In/Out

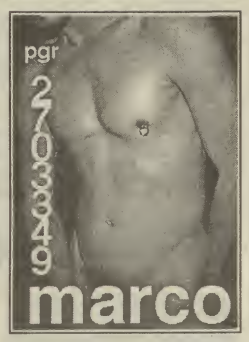




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Hot Bi-guy likes to kick Back. Page 449-8007 E24

Handsome, Muscular Italian
11" THICK
I kick back--Tony 776-8481 E23

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Masculine clean cut & yes versatile French/Italian, dk thick hair, full lips Very Hot! Hung & tight. Out only. Bradly 201-1319 E24

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ATHLETIC MASCULINE HUNG 9X5 FOR WORSHIP
6'1", 175, BR/GR, GOATEE WAY HOT W/GREAT LEGS MATTHEW • 224-6674 • OUT E25

Booted Professional Dominant
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Wicked imagination! High intensity! Fully equipped dungeon, safe & sane All major credit cards 415-626-4319 E24

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Tired of kids? Move up to a well Hung, handsome, muscular stud who Knows how. Pgr 207-6786 E23

26yo Latino Stud, bronze skin, wants To make your time, the best one 4u!! **ANDRES! 415-527-6096** E23

Tall, Lean, Handsome, Hung 27yo Exmilitary Top w/8" Kal 764-6627 24 Hrs. E23

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Young Boy•Hung Versatile Seeking Reg. New Clients SF 253-3930 Guaranteed E24

SACRAMENTO HUNK
(916) 819-0447 Built Chest/Arms E26

Southern Hospitality-Blond/blue, 5"-6", 140#, Johnny, 673-3025, 303-0373 E23

CUTE AZ FUK
25yo Tightbuild. Hung, Versatile, Slender Physique Super Cute. Professional. In/Out, 24Hrs, Joey 752-3844 Hm 741-5329 pgr Picture @ www.Lovings.com E23

Pec & Nipple Ecstasy 773-9130 Kory E23

Working my fingers to the bone... 28 year old sexy masseur 487-0278 E23

2 CUTE YOUNG GUYS
Both 23, Short Hair, Cln Cut 1 Blond/Bl, Nice and Thick 1 Br/Br, Great Ass, Smooth 280-7851 E23

The boy next door--Hot and Cute
LEATHER BOY TOY
28yrs, 5'10", 150#, shaved head Slim build, 7 thick inches, thight Nuts and a sweet bubble butt. Friendly outgoing personality. Hot oral give and take. $80/In $100/Out Andy 708-5388 E23

Tool Nipple Enlargement work 4 fit Men by muscle Daddy, 47, great body Big beautiful tool pg 538-9588 $60 hr E23

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5'11", 185, hot chest, hairy, butch, Bubble butt, needs quality oral Attention front & back Pg 303-1235 E23

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Blonde/Attractive & Versatile, 25yo, 6', 160lb, w/defined swimmers/b
9" CUT
Kurt pgr 679-1308 E23

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Latin Longhair, Hung, Day Rate Discounts. $75/100 Carlos 861-2603 E24

TORSO, ADVOCATE PLAYGIRL MODEL
MICHAELS ESCORT
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23yo, 5'8", 145#, 29w, 39c, smooth, cute
ASIAN GO-GO BOY
Strip Show/True Fantasies, All Bay Hiu p(415) 313-9537, $100 Out, Top E24

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6'4", 40s, 195, 7.5X6 Stache/Goatee Gives Intense Erotic 2hr Massage to Naughty Boys all areas studnt disc $35 in $50 out Pgr 707-944-6575 Lv#No msg,PAGE ME NOW BOY! E24

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Very Cute, Boyish, Massage-Escort Blond/Blue/Tanned/Smooth Body
HOT SENSUAL MASSAGE
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Cute guy 5'5", 135#, nice chest & arms, Small cute tight smooth bottom, Hung. Older men welcom $50 Donald 351-2034 E25

Young Fine Smooth Humpy Studboy
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Dean: 20, 6', 165#, br/blue, clean-cut, deep bottom, hard 8", steel ass
NEW PGR# 415-605-3376 E26

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Hot S/M stud who is rough, raw, ready. Verbal top. long lasting fun. A ball busting 8.5 inches. Hardcore stud top $90 in/out welcome sisco 415-861-SEXX E23

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VERY MUSCULAR
VERY MASCULINE
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PERSONALS

MODELS & ESCORTS

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BLOND 225 6FT
50" CHEST 18" ARMS
PGR# 415-605-2433


Sensual Msg, Escort Body/Foot Worship Discount for 2 Clients
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Asian Dream

$$$ FETISH MEN $$$
We're looking for hot leather/uniform guys for FETISH and KINK videos. TOP PAY for those who qualify!
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FRENCH MARINE
Bodybuilder,
220lbs,6'1",52ch,21"A,
26 years.
New in town from
Paris, France
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MUSCULAR BUTCH-HUNG
baseball biceps, hard buffed body with a powertool ready for action. Pgr. 207-6786

PLEASURE TORTURE
Short, built, and handsome top man, expert in bondage and *gradual* pleasure/pain, tt, esp. CBT. Safe, discreet, trustworthy, and knowledgable.
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HOT TOUGH TOP
Dominant Leatherman, SM, BD, WS, CBT, Fetish, All Fantasies. 38yo, 6'1", 210#, Brown Hair, Blue Eyes, Flattop, mustache, 7" uncut. Beginner to Heavy. Have Equipment
Scott 415 790-0902 In/Out

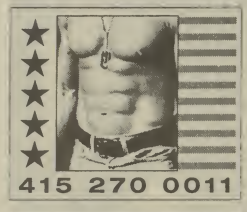
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IN-OUT $85-$95

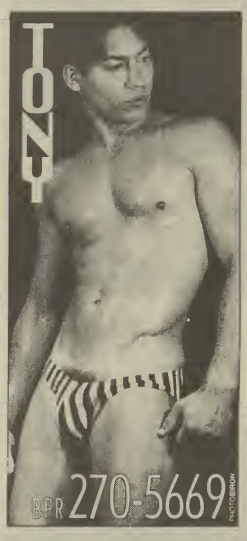


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Smooth Darkskin
Well Defined Gym Toned Muscles
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6ft 175lb 8" thick
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-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned master into all aspects & degrees of leatherplay.
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BPR # 807-5690 E23

Distinguished Age 40
Handsome Hung 8 and Thick
$75 Dave 436-9663 E23

;Harvard Rowing Team
WASP good looks/ripped body
Expensive Steve 794-8539 E23

CUTE 23 YR OLD
5'8", 140 lbs, smooth, clean cut
Call Chad at 241-9381 E23

LEATHER/SM FANTASIES
Tough dominant top, 38yo, 6'1", 210#, 7" uncut, blue eyes, flat top, mustache. Into leather, SM, bondage, WS, CBT, fantasy, beginner-heavy. Have equipment
Scott (415) 790-0902. In*or Out calls E24

BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay Area Ted • (415) 459-3488 E25

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21 yr old boy, swimmer's build Chiseled face, olive complexion, 6ft, Defined chest & legs, 8" thick uncut Beautiful yummy ass! 150 lbs. Black hair, brn eyes, Outcalls/Hotels Rex 731-4168 Serious, generous callers only. Hourly/All night. E23

Adam 38, 6'4", 195#, bind/blu, hairy
Handsome, clean-cut, hung, masculine
Day/Nite Page 207-8089 Visa/MC E23

Clean-cut Grad Student,
5'10", 155, Brown/Blue,
Smooth, Lean, Muscular Body
Very Cute, Very Versatile.
Call Jason 24 hrs 541-5002 E23

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10" X 6" UNCUT
Big Fat Tool 487-9566 pgr 678-1005 E23

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Masculine Slim Built with Handsome Boyish looks friendly, clean and Discreet. First class, hung top. Out only $70
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Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
$80/$100 • JIM 267-1817 E26

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5'10"145lbs. cute,clean,riveting,sexy boy. 8". Smooth body.
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HOT HARD STUD
28yo hard Bodied Dominant Top. Thick & Well-hung for fun, fantasies Kink & Fetish Trace•270-0818 24Hrs E23

SUPER STUD
WHAT YOU WANTED ALL ALONG
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Pgr 207-5315 E22

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TRAINING 764-6627
Hot, Hung, and Verbal E23

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Stud 10 1/2 Uncut Call For
Details 270-9532 E24

21 Dark Skin Asian 776-5169/739-7954 E24

Handsome, Muscular Italian
11" THICK
I kick back--Tony 776-8481 E23

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Cute, Blonde, Smooth
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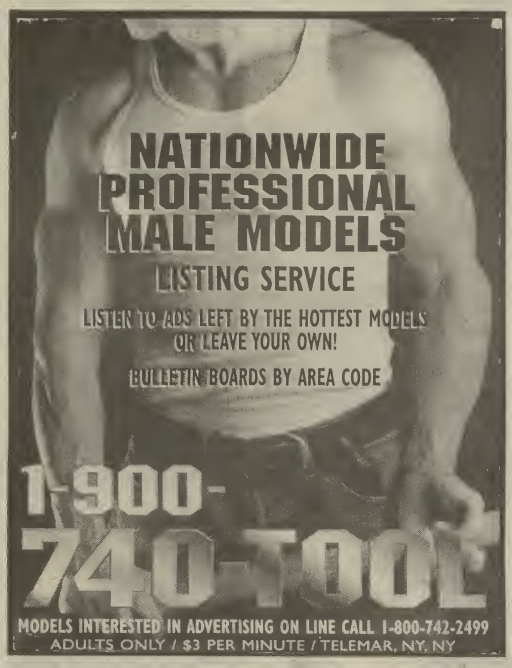
6'2", 180, blo, blu. 8X6, deep throat & bubble butt. Fantasy 2 (888-310-0255)
X-MILITARY 24Y VGL E25

HOT DOMINANT TOP
Worship, Fetish Fantasy
415-245-1097 E23

COLLEGE JOCK
25yo, Extremely Handsome, Rock hard 5'9", 160, Br/Gr, 7 1/2" cut, muscle Ass, Deep throat 415-739-7312 E23

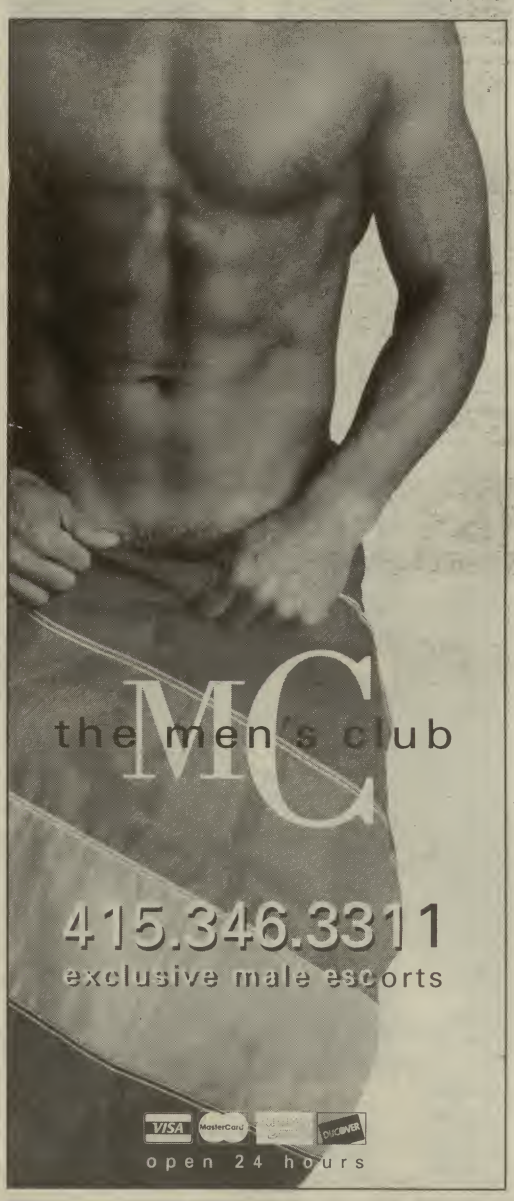
CUTE YOUNG BOY
19yr old, 5'10", 150 lbs, 7 1/2 Uncut, smooth body, beautiful face And great personality. Pgr 679-8843 E23

MODELS & ESCORTS



MUSCLE TOP
Hot Bodybuilder, 6'2", 200 lb, 28yo
Well Hung, 17"A, 46"C, 32"W Very
Goodlooking (408) 788-7508 Christian E25

EASTBAY TIGER!
TRIM, TONED, THICK, TOP, TAME
Thong tan, smooth, cut, cute, 26,
Br/Br Discreet, $85 510-218-9012 E23









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Hot guy next door treats you right!
Br. Hair, Br. Eyed
Horsehung Top Studpoker. 24 Hrs.
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Hot, Young, Tall, Smooth, Fun &
Friendly, Alternative Boy • 21yo.
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Real sexy skinny boys, showoff.
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ITALIAN MANMEAT
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W/S AND KINKY GAMES
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MUSCLE TOP
Hot Bodybuilder, 6'2", 200 lb, 28yo
Well Hung, 17"A, 46"C, 32"W Very
Goodlooking (408) 788-7508 Christian E25

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Beyond All Your Expectations!!! 26, 6',
170#, Sincere, Passionate & Charming
•Pager (510) 425-8395•Dave E24

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knees. Fee. Outcalls (510) 466-0455 E24

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SEXY BLOND BOY TREAT
Slender and Sensual. Do Yourself a
Favor--Call Sebastian 440-3983 E23

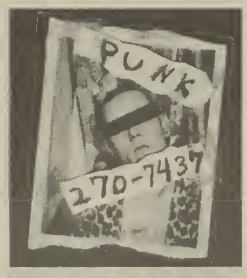
Tattooed pierced 25yr old Porn Star
MASTER SADIST
Experienced Master abuses slaves Kink
only/all scenes. Women & beginners
welcome. Out calls Eric 560-3784 VM E23

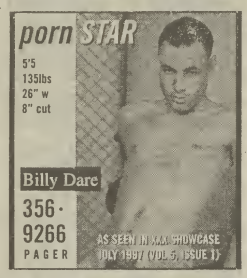
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TIGER 449-8354/OUT E23

LOVE TO KISS
Sexy eyes, hairy chest, buzzed head.
Enjoy the Irish passions of
This 38 y/o man. Sean 709-0016 E23

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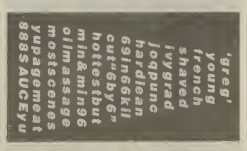
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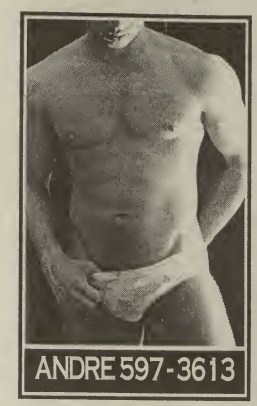
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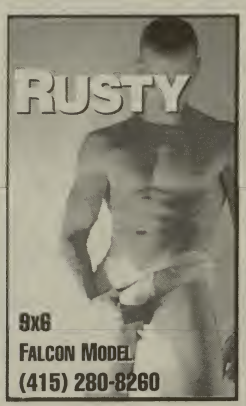
PERSONALS

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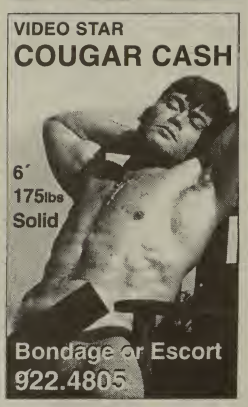








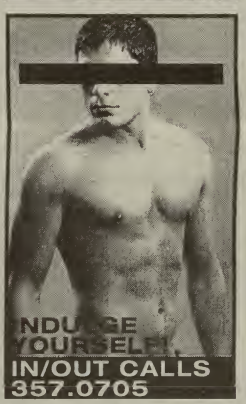




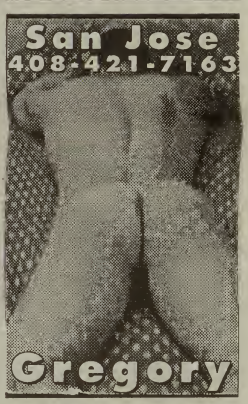












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